Young, gifted and gay:

Utah's Kelli Peterson comes to town for the '96 Youth Caucus.

Don we now our gay apparel: Gift ideas for campy, romantic, political, and black leather types.

pages 14 - 21



Good and hard:

Mark Morris' The Hard Nut triumphs at Zellerbach.

see Arts section



Vol. 26 • No. 51 • 19 December 1996

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 25 years



President Clinton's "Strategy" is meeting with little praise but lots of criticism from all quarters.

CLINTON 'STRATEGY' RETREATS ON AIDS

by Bob Roehr

he White House released "The National AIDS Strategy," prepared by the Office of National AIDS Policy (ONAP), on Tuesday, December 17. After a copy was leaked to the press two days prior by ACT UP/Washington, the general reaction has ranged from tepid support to outright hostility.

"Strategy" is a 40-page report accompanied by a separate appendix that annotates budget line item expenditures for all government agencies. Outgoing AIDS czar Patsy Fleming called it a "first-ever," which her office worked on "for more than a year." She told the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS on December 15 that it was her "legacy" and "marching orders" for the next four years.

AIDS activists blasted the report.

and "marching orders" for the next four years.

AIDS activists blasted the report.
"We've had this before," said Peter Staley with the Treatment Action Group. "The problem is the politicians let them gather dust."

Christine Lubinski, deputy director of the AIDS Action Council, saw little to praise. She said "the muchtouted strategy reflects little of the read challenges that now face us in the face of promising new AIDS treatments and their implications for HIV prevention, counseling, and testing programs, and the whole array of access to care and supportive services cess to care and supportive services programs

programs."

She called it "shockingly silent about the availability of federal funds to realize those goals which it does not identify." She fears the worst in this climate of striving for a balanced

"Strategy" suffers in comparison with the 1991 report "America Living With AIDS," issued by the National Commission on AIDS. From content to writing, to something as simple as three times citing the wrong year for

page 25 >

AEF, OTHERS KEEP PWA HOLIDAY MEAL TRADITION

by Dennis Conkin

he AIDS Emergency Fund is again offering its traditional Christmas Eve dinner for people with AIDS and HIV this Tuesday, December 24.
The community service agency will hold three seatings – one at 12 noon, another at 1:30 p.m., and a final dinner seating at 3 p.m. – in the Green Room of the San Francisco War Memorial Building, located at 401 Van Nees Avenue

Ness Avenue.

AIDS Emergency Fund clients are welcome to pick up tickets for the event at the AEF's 1540 Market Street office, or by calling (415) 558-6999.

ing (415) 558-6999.

A special holiday dinner is also available at the annual Tenderloin Tessie turkey feast at the First Unitarian Church, located at Franklin and O'Farrell, on Christmas Day. Unfortunately, the time of the dinner wasn't available at B.A.R. presstime, but A.L. Allen and the Tenderloin Tessie crew will give details to callers to (415) 921-5026.

St. Anthony Foundation will serve its free traditional Christmas dinner at St. Anthony Dining Room, located at 44 Jones Street. Dinner is served for women, children, and the elderly at 11 a.m. Dinner for everyone else begins at noon and continues

everyone else begins at noon and continues until 2:30 p.m. Guests of the dining room are encouraged to return through the serving line as many times as they wish. For more information about St. Anthony, call (415) 241-2600.

(415) 241-2600.
Glide Church will also have free dinners on both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Christmas Eve dinner is served from 9:30-11 p.m. Christmas Dinner will be served from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Glide expects to serve 6,500 people at Christmas. For more information, call (415) 771-6300.

Also, Shanti Project will hold a holiday social for its clients at its 1546 Market Street of



An especially friendly St. Nick always pays a visit to the annual AEF Christmas Eve dinner.

fices this Friday, December 20 from 7-10 p.m.

The organizations providing the dinners urge those who do not need to attend to consider providing support, either through vol-

unteer efforts, cash and/or food donations. Glide especially needs unwrapped new toys for children up to age 12 for its December 22 toy giveaway.

POST-HIGH BROW BASHING CASE GOES TO COURT

by Dennis Conkin

February 14 court date has been set for an accused gay-basher who, according to Assistant San Fran-cisco District Attorney Scot Clark, allegedly slugged a gay man with AIDS so hard the victim lost one tooth and chipped four others.

The attack on Billy Wisevogel took place at 18th and Collingwood streets after the annual High Brow Society AIDS fundraiser last October 19, which featured a mock funeral procession for a fictional drag character around the Castro and through Collingwood Park.

According to the police report, Wisevogel was in drag and posing for photographs with a woman when the woman's boyfriend attacked him.
"I was with a bunch of women who work

page 27 ▶



Alleged bashing victim Billy Wisevogel lost one tooth and had to have four others surgically wired after the Oct. 19 incident.

INSIDE	
BAR Talk	52
Bazaar	50
Classifieds	28
Community Health	28
GLAAD	12
Mailstrom	7
Obituaries	24
Open Forum	6
Our Man Friday	9
Out & About	48
Out There	35
Personals	54
Sapphistication	10
Sports Complex	26

Every litter bit hurt

Judge tells Bellefountaine, **Burk to stay away from SFAF**

by Dennis Conkin

wo controversial San Francisco AIDS activists have vowed to work to overturn permanent injunctions issued against them by a Superior Court judge on December 12th.

The injunctions forbid

The injunctions forbid
Michael Bellefountaine and Ronnie Burk from entering the San Francisco AIDS Foundation of-fices at 10 United Nations Plaza – or from coming closer than 100 yards from any events or programs sponsored by the group or

at other events or programs where there are employees of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

"This is a clear message to any PWA who happens to be a client of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation," Bellefountaine told the Bay Area Reporter. "If you protest its policies, you will be denied its

Foundation spokesman Timo-thy Rodrigues dismissed the claim and said the foundation sought not to prevent political or open discussion about SF AIDS Foundation policies or programs, but to "stop the intimidation, harass-

ment and violence" directed at SFAF employees.
"It's really unfortunate that we

need to focus on this, because it takes away from the epidemic and we prefer to have our attention fo-cused on fighting the epidemic,"

Rodrigues said.

Judge Everett Hewlett, Jr. issued the injunctions after a hearing that included testimony of SFAF Executive Director Pat Christen; Susan Haikalis, LCSW, the agency's director and attorney. tor of client services; and attorney Paul Di Donato, the agency's public policy director.

Going over the E.D.'s head

Foundation officials sought the injunction after two recent in-cidents involving the activists,

who oppose SFAF's treatment policies and claim the agency per-petuates "institutionalized

In an October incident, Burk poured a bag containing used kitty litter, including cat feces, over Christen's head at an SFAFsponsored voters forum on HIV/AIDS issues.

The act was widely condemned

by lesbian and gay activists as a vi-olent act out of line with civil dis-obedience, and Haikalis subsequently "permanently suspended" Burk for assaultive behavior over the incident.

In a second incident last month, Burk and Bellefountaine were involved in a scuffle with a security guard hired by the foundation. The pair were meeting with Haikalis over Burk's suspen-

sion from client services.

Although felony terrorist Anthough Terons threat and assault charges were initially charged against Bellefountaine in that incident, charges were later reduced to misdemeanors by the San Francisco District Attorney's office, despite the activists' assertion that they

were attacked by the guard.

Bellefountaine told the Bay
Area Reporter that SFAF had
sought the restraining order "based on perjured testimony," and mischaracterizations of the activists' political action, but acknowledged that it may have had grounds against Burk over the cat litter incident. ▼



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office in Berkeley by Cynthia Laird ewly elected Berkeley City Council member Kriss Worthington was sworn into office Tuesday, December 10, becoming the first openly gay elected member of the council. After taking the oath of office from Berkeley City Clerk Sherry Kelly, Worthington took his seat at the far end of the council. He

From activist to City Hall

Worthington takes

drew laughter from the packed chambers when he repeated a phrase of the oath and added emphasis when he pledged to serve without any mental reservation.

Worthington, who had often addressed the council as a citizen, is now one of the governing body and looks out over the audience that he used to be a part of. The

longtime political activist had never before run for public office. Even deciding to enter the race in August was somewhat of a sur-prise; he didn't file his campaign papers until literally minutes be-

fore the deadline.
"I reluctantly decided to give it a shot, though I thought it impossible," he said. "My standing here this evening is a testament to hard work and hundreds of volunteers. You [in this room] have proved

the impossible can be done."

Worthington was elected to the two-year seat following a De-cember 3 runoff in Berkeley's District 7, when he defeated three term incumbent Carla Wood-worth. Neither candidate received enough votes in the November 5 election to win the seat outright, resulting in the runoff. At last



Kriss Worthington holds his Certificate of Election.

week's council meeting, Worthington said he intends to offer Woodworth one of his appoint-ments to a city board or commis-

"I believe passionately in rep-resentation," he said during an open forum where all council members and the public had an opportunity to express their opinions on city issues. "Part of the process is inclusion ...and mutu-al respect."

The new council member announced he's accepting letters of interest from Berkeley citizens who are interested in serving on one of a myriad of boards and commissions that cover every commissions that cover every-thing from sewers to housing to cable TV. Since Berkeley council meetings are broadcast live on local cable, viewers were also included in Worthington's an-nouncement. People do not need to reside in District 7 to be con-

to reside in District 7 to be considered for an appointment.
"I wish to reach out to everyone in the city," he said. "We are going to be working together to make Berkeley a better place."

Kriss Worthington can be reached at Berkeley Civic Center, 2180 Milvia Street, calling (510) 644-6398.



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Three arrested in pit bull attack on gays at Church and Market

by Dennis Conkin

hree criminal suspects were arraigned in Municipal Court this week on aggravated assault charges, in connection with a savage pit bull attack and the beating of two gay men at Church and Market Street on Sunday, December 15.

Sunday, December 15.

After the suspects entered not guilty pleas to the charges, which include hate crime allegations, at a Wednesday, December 18 arraignment, Municipal Court Judge Kevin Ryan rejected defense requests the trio be released on their reconstraints. their recognizances – and instead ordered Randolph Rodriguez, 26, and El Toro Nelson, 27, held on \$150,000 bail each. They remain in police custody at the Hall of

Ryan also ordered Justo Rivera 26, held on \$100,000 bail. Although allegedly less involved in the attack than the other two sus-pects, Rivera reportedly threatened to kill one eyewitness who identified him as a suspect at Mission Police Station.

Because of the possibility of re-taliation against witnesses and the victims in the case, the *Bay Area Re-porter* will not release their names. The incident began, according

to one of the assault victims, after one of the defendants allegedly knocked down his motorcycle, which was parked on Church Street in front of St. Francis

Lutheran Church.

Alerted to the incident, the attending a meeting, to find out what had happened. He told the B.A.R. he quickly discovered that the alleged assailants' motive "was when one of the trio threatened him.

"He asked me if I was looking

for trouble. I said, 'No, I'm not.'

for trouble. I said, 'No, I'm not.'
According to the victim, one of
the accused gay-bashers then
began pointing at various people
in the gathering crowd, asking if

they were "looking for trouble." The men – and a fugitive female – set upon a vulnerable-looking gay man in the crowd and attacked him with their fists and feet, and then turned the pit bull loose on the victim, according to reports.

Good Samaritan

The second victim managed to flee the attack momentarily, but was quickly set upon – at which point the owner of the motorcycle intervened.

"He was shouting, 'Please help me,'" he told the Bay Area Re-

porter. "I was gay-bashed 16 years ago, and no one would help me, either. I jumped in to save him."

After pulling one of the trio off the victim, the man was severely bitten by the pit bull, whose jaws were locked into his arm so tight that only direct punches to the dog's nose formed it to release its grip.

nose forced it to release its grip.

Police arrested the trio at the scene, but seek the female fugitive in connection with the assault, according to Special Investigation Division Sergeant Marlene Ottone, who handled the police in-

The victims were treated for bruises, lacerations, and dog bites at local hospitals and released.

The defendants face ten-year

rison sentendants race ten-year prison sentences if convicted on the charges.

The pit bull remains in quarantine at the SF City and County Animal Care and Control kennels. ▼

Anyone who was an eyewitness to the incident should contact Jennifer Rakowski of Community United Against Violence at (415) 777-5500.

.A.R. inquiry sidelines Muni basher

by Dennis Conkin

leaders are critical of Muni Railway management for failing to remove Wardy Joubert, tauing to remove Wardy Joubert, a bus driver charged in July with multiple felony assault and antigay assault hate crime, from public contact until five months after his alleged attack on a gay man riding the #4 Stockton line in July.

Joubert, who will be tried in Superior Court in March 1997 on the assault charges, was relieved of his driving duties and assigned to a desk job Friday, December 13just hours after the *Bay Area Reporter* raised policy questions about his assignment as a "floater driver" assigned to any Muni line as needed.

Joubert faces a state prison sentence if convicted of the four felony assault and hate crime

charges.
"Once it was established that he was driving, he was removed from driving pending the out-come of trial," said Muni Manager of Communications Sharon

Critics question why Muni didn't remove Joubert sooner. "I think that's absolutely out-

ue to have him operate a bus or ue to have him operate a bus or have contact with the public after a preliminary hearing which found probable cause of four felony counts, including criminal statues on hate crimes;" said attorney Thomas Ray, who represents victim Sonny Vukic. "It's a continued flagrant disregard for the lesbian and gay community."

Ray isn't the only one raising questions about Muni's lag in removing lobuert.

moving Joubert.

Jeff Sheehy, President of the
Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, blasted Muni for

page 27



Alleged gay basher Wardy Joubert.

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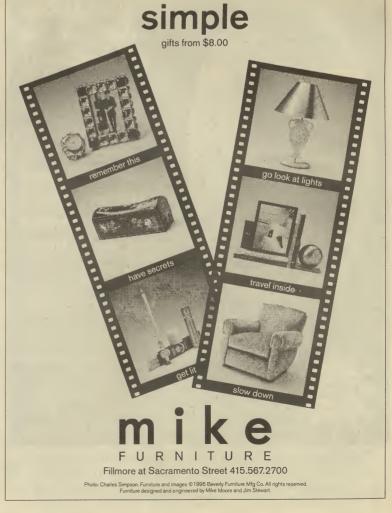


- ARCHITECTURE

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HRC, business group hold meeting on new DP benefits law

by Cynthia Laird

orking to help businesses comply with San Francisco's new domestic partner benefits ordinance, the Human Rights Commission and the Small Business Advisory Commission held a public meeting Tuesday, December 17 to listen to concerns and answer questions about the law.

The Board of Supervisors

The Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted the law, requiring businesses that contract with the city to offer benefits to domestic partners of employees if they offer such benefits to spouses of employees, which was signed by Mayor Willie Brown in November. It will not go into effect until June 1, 1997.

HRC Chair Martha Knutzen

HRC Chair Martha Knutzen emphasized the meeting was only the first step in what will be an "ongoing dialogue with the business community." The HRC has been directed by Brown to implement the new law.

"The HRC's philosophy is to make sure wards with cortex."

"The HRC's philosophy is to make sure we work with contractors," Knutzen said. "It's very important to us that the small business community is involved."

portant to us that the small business community is involved." Stephen Cornell, president of the Small Business Advisory Commission, said, "We want to help businesses, especially small businesses, implement this policy." Cornell said four issues have been expressed to him by small business owners about the law: that it's easy to implement, economically reasonable insurance coverage can be found, that businesses are not put at a disadvantage, and that there's a level playing field.

The most frequently expressed

concern at the meeting was that insurance coverage for domestic partners is not available. Under the new law, if a contractor can't find an insurance carrier to provide domestic partner coverage, or if the coverage can't be provided equally to employees with domestic partners, the contractor will still be in compliance with the

law if it provides the employee with a cash equivalent.

G. Rhea Serpan, president of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, said the chamber does have member businesses that already provide domestic partner coverage. However, some members have raised concerns about the new law. "We want to help businesses separate myth from reality," Serpan said, adding the chamber can help by disseminating accurate, factual information to businesses.

For more information about the new law, people can call the HRC at (415) 252-2500.

Deadline nears for first E. Bay 'Trailblazer Awards'

by Cynthia Laird

hree groups have joined forces to sponsor the first Trailblazer Awards, to recognize lesbians and gays in the East Bay who have made significant contributions to the community. Nominations will be accepted until the deadline this Sunday, December 22.

The awards are a collaboration of AMASSI, Inc.; the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club (EBL/GDC); and the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund. The Trailblazer Awards were founded as a means to celebrate lesbians and gays in the East Bay who not only have made significant contributions to the community, but who also support and advocate for gay and lesbian civil rights, according to Brendalynn Goodall, chair of

the awards committee, and a member of AMASSI's board of directors.

"What's different about these awards is that they're the first of their kind in the East Bay," Goodall told the B.A.R. "It's recognizing the unsung heroes. We're trying to establish a sense of pride in the East Bay."

There are several categories of

There are several categories of achievement for which a person can be nominated. They include: arts and culture, athletics, business, community services, education, healthcare, law, literature, media, philanthropy, politics, spirituality, trades, and youth/elder services.

It is hoped that an award can be presented to an individual representing each category, Goodall

said.
Nominees must be East Bay residents. Additionally, nominees

must have demonstrated excellence in one or more of the listed categories through specific identifiable accomplishments in those areas. Finally, the nominee's work must have advanced the interests of lesbians and gays in the East Bay.

of lesbians and gays in the East Bay.
In addition to selecting categories for nominees, written information is also requested to detail the person's work, any other awards the individual has received, and how the nominee's work has advanced the interests of East Bay eavy and lesbians

East Bay gays and lesbians.
Goodall said that the award winners will be recognized at the Trailblazer Awards banquet that is scheduled to be held in Oakland on Saturday, March 1.
AMASSI, Inc. was formed in

AMASSI, Inc. was formed in 1989 and has provided prevention, education, housing, and supportive services to the AIDS-impacted African-American community. The organization was established by and primarily targets AfricanAmerican men who love men.

The EBL/GDC was also formed in 1989 with the mission of ensuring the needs of lesbians and gays are represented in the political process. Most recently, the club worked with Oakland City Councilman John Russo to start the city's domestic partner registry that got underway in October.

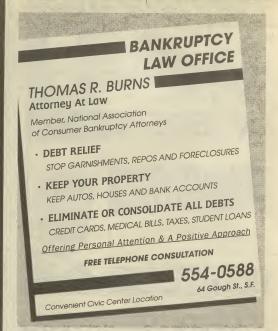
The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund was founded in 1991. The Victory Fund is the nation's tenth largest political action committee. It's a donor network of individuals who are committed to electing openly gay and lesbian public officials.

For more information or an application form, call (510) 433-9377. Forms may be sent to Trailblazer Award, 351-15th Street, Oakland CA 94612 or faxed to (510) 835-4206.



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Migden to chair appropriations committee, as predicted

Post viewed as second most powerful in Assembly

by Cynthia Laird

s was widely expected, San Francisco Assemblywoman Carole Migden was named chair of the powerful Appropria-tions Committee by Assembly Speaker Cruz Bustamante, D-

Fresno, on Wednesday, December 18. The position is regarded as second in importance only to the speaker of California's lower

Migden's appointment marks the first time that a freshman legislator has chaired the committee. She is also the first openly gay or

lesbian chair of the committee.
"I am deeply honored that
Speaker Bustamante has entrusted me with this enormous responsibility," Migden stated. "We are assembling a team of highly respected professionals who will assist the committee in ensuring that the people of California get a responsible and cost-effective government."

Migden was elected to the Assembly in March, and easily won reelection November 5 to a full

term.
The Appropriations Comm tee hears and processes all bills that have a potential fiscal impact on the state and local governon the state and local govern-ments, with the exception of the annual state budget bill. The com-mittee's analysis of proposed leg-islation reflects the best estimate of each bill's cost, savings, and revenue impact at the time hearings on the bills are held.

With few exceptions, bills are re-referred to the Appropriations Committee after passage from an Committee after passage from an Assembly policy committee. During the current legislative session that began December 2, the first bills are expected to reach the committee in February.



Carole Migden

Long considered an expert on fiscal matters, Migden ser the budget committee of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors during her first term. As chair of the committee in 1993, she was instrumental in closing a \$184

instrumental in closing a 3104 million budget deficit.

Migden now joins the Assembly's other politically powerful lesbian. As reported earlier this month, Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl, D-Los Angeles, was appointed speaker pro tem. She will preside over the 80-member Assembly in Bustamante's absence. Kuehl is the first woman and first open lesbian to hold that post.

Kelli Peterson comes to MCC/SF

by Jesse Costello-Good

elli Peterson, the young lesbian from Salt Lake City who became famous last year when the Utah State Legislature outlawed the Gay/Straight Alliance she helped establish in her high school, attended the 1996 Youth Caucus last Sunday, De-cember 15 at the San Francisco Metropolitan Community Church. The event, which sought to provide a spiritual place for youth to come and celebrate gay and lesbian people, attracted about a dozen people.

Despite the small showing, at-

tendees raised some major and important issues at the gathering. Among the topics of concern was how young people can reconcile religion and homosexuality. Said Reverend Penny Nixon of MCC/SF, "So many young people don't even think [being spiritual] is an option, because the main religious message is anti-gay." One youth present at the caucus confirmed Nixon's assessment out. youth present at the caucus con-firmed Nixon's assessment, say-ing, "I was taught I was a devia-tion in church, and I didn't hear anything [about homosexuality] in high school." Yet for many, religion can be an escape from a homophobic world. "I probably couldn't have started the Gay/Straight Alliance without spirituality in my last year of high school," Peterson said. Another issue was the lack of

places for queer youth to go. "[When I was a teenager] I was in the bars. That was the only place I felt safe and had a sense of community," said one adult attendee.

"Now I'm a recovering alco-

Throughout the evening, edu-Throughout the evening, education was a prevalent theme. Lack of it was blamed for everything from HIV infection to homophobia. Said one youth, "I was never taught about AIDS. HIV is considered a gay disease, that's why they don't teach about it. As a result. I'm HIV positive." From result, I'm HIV-positive." From her experience, Peterson suggest-ed, "You have to start education about what gay and lesbian peo-ple are in kindergarten."

Last year, when Peterson was a senior at East High School in Salt Lake City, she started a Gay/Straight Alliance to support the LGBTQ kids at her school. The principal of the school, sensing a impending protest from parents, asked the state Attorney

General to issue a statement saying the club was legal. The Attorney General said it was legal under a state equal access law, but unfortunately that strategy backfired. The school board voted to outlaw all non-academic clubs to avoid baying to keen the

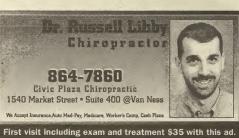
outlaw all non-academic clubs to avoid having to keep the Gay/Straight Alliance.

That same week, the state legislature held what's now known as its infamous "secret meeting," which was illegal under Utah open-government laws. In the meeting, during which the politicians watched the arch-conservative propaganda video Gay Rights, Special Rights and (literally) kicked around a copy of Heather Has Two Mommies, the legislature voted to outlaw school clubs that discussed human sexuality, illegal behavior, or discrimination.

behavior, or discrimination.

The East High School
Gay/Straight Alliance found a way Gay/Straight Alliance found a way around all these laws, however. Currently it is defined as a public group that meets at East High School, instead of as an official school club. The group even rents space from the school at six dollars per hour. ▼





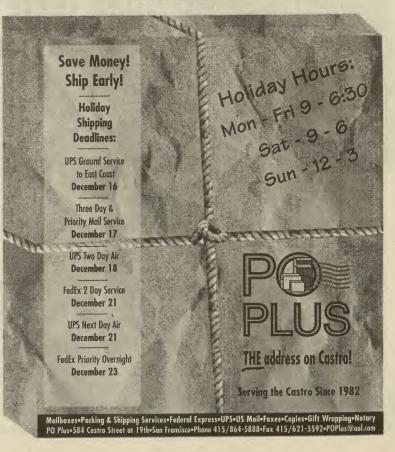


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Clinton gives America an empty present

he combination of this year's late Thanksgiving and this week's glori-ously unwinterlike days in San Franously unwintering days in San Fran-cisco make it hard to believe Christmas is coming this week. We hope Santa is a little better prepared than we are, and that he's already packed plenty of coal for Bill Clin-

better prepared than we are, and that he's already packed plenty of coal for Bill Clinton's stocking.

The so-called "AIDS Strategy" the president released this week is a heartless holiday present to people with AIDS, but its true mean-spiritedness is to thousands of people who will spend this season HIV-negative, but be needlessly infected by next season. Clinton knows perfectly well that for any real AIDS strategy to be credible, it must include needle exchange. His does not.

Despite ample evidence that laws pro-

Despite ample evidence that laws pro-hibiting the possession of injection para-phernalia are counter-productive, the Clinphernalia are counter-productive, the Clin-ton administration refuses to get law en-forcement officials off the backs of needle exchange programs and the people who run them. This country is virtually alone in en-forcing this obviously deadly policy; the vast majority of countries around the globe have acknowledged that providing non-HIV-in-fected syringes to users in partiest the right fected syringes to users is not just the right thing to do, it is the only thing to do. The United States' failure to face reality

will result in the unnecessary deaths of thousands of drug users. Moreover, to what should be the eternal condemnation of people who talk about the "innocent victims" of AIDS, the virus will get passed on to many more thousands of people who just happen to be users' wives and children. Even Jesse Helms has said he feels sorry for people who were infected that way; surely if their stories can tug at what's left of his heart, the rest of America can be shown the

necessity of needle exchange.

What that would take, however, is communication from our president, who once promised scores of "town hall" meetings with the electorate, presumably to discuss exactly that sort of complex issue. Regretthe public (which often happens to people who have something terrible to hide) and either doesn't trust the rest of the country or himself to get the point understood. Which is ridiculous.

If Clinton cannot convey the ur-gency in human terms, perhaps he can base his appeal on the most revered God of twentieth centu-ry America: tax dollars.

Simply put, the country can't afford the AIDS caseload it has now; everybody pays more for it each April 15 and each time insurance premiums rise; the way to stop more of those costs – literally hun-**Editorial** dreds of millions into billions

of dollars — is to stop the spread of the virus. And part of that program necessitates eliminating stupid laws that drive desperate addicts to share needles with others who are already infected. Instead, Clinton chickened out and avoided the issue altogether. But it's undeniable that sometimes not making a decision is, well, making a decision, and this president's decision is to allow a lot of people to die when they don't have to.

Meanwhile, while Santa is loading up the coal for Clinton, he should be

sure to bring along plenty more for Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala, "AIDS Czar" Patsy Fleming, and every member of the HIV advisory council who voted to endorse the wretched thing.

Actually, those sycophants shouldn't be expecting anything at all from Santa: now that they have shown they're completely defanged, they should be hoping for some kind of windfall from the tooth fairy.

God bless us, every one.



Guest Opinion

An open letter to PETA

by Steve Michael, ACT UP/DC

ast June, when several ACT UP chapast June, when several ACT UP chapters around the country confronted your organization's opposition to AIDS research, you hid behind red ribbons and people with AIDS instead of answering our charges. You pulled out PETA staffers, calling them "gay" animal rights activists, to create an illusion to America and the media that you had the support of the around least the trought of the country of the around least the trought of the country of the around least the trought of the country of the around least the a that you had the support of the gay and les-

that you had the support of the gay and les-bian community.

You marginalized the gay and lesbian struggle for equal rights and liberation, as well as the civil rights movement and women's rights issues, by comparing our movements and the Holocaust with chick-en ranching. You challenged us by asking us how we, an oppressed people, could support the continued "oppression" of lab rats and roaches.

and roaches.

You also spoke of the need for increased funding for HIV prevention efforts, the importance of housing for people with AIDS, the need to increase funding for the care and treatment of people with AIDS.

In other words, you lied.

Now your response is coming back to

Now your response is coming back to haunt you. Saturday, December 14th, PETA gave a "Humanitarian of the Year" award to gave a "Humanitarian of the Year" award to United States Senator Bob Smith of New Hampshire, one of the most consistent opponents of AIDS care, treatment, research, and prevention to ever cast his shadow in the halls of Congress.

Smith's proud is so bad on AIDS that he

Smith's record is so bad on AIDS that he Smiths record is so bad on AIDS that he was one of only three Senators to oppose the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act. Perhaps your organization does not know what that means to people with ington, DC, we receive about \$8 million from Ryan White. We use the money to provide poor people with AIDS access to doctors, drugs, food, housing, dental and home healthcare, drug treatment – in other words, the basic survival needs of life. As a member of the local Ryan White Planning Council and the chair of its Fiscal Oversight Committee, I can tell you this with certainty: if your "Humanitarian of the Year" had his way, many of us living with HIV and AIDS would die faster, poorer, and hungrier. Bob Smith is no humanitarian. Your support of him forever associates your organization with opposition to the basics of life for

people with AIDS. You should be ashamed of yourselves. Several years ago, your "Humanitarian of the Year" had a bit of a public relations problem. His consistent record against

civil rights, civil liberties, health care, gay and lesbian rights, AIDS funding, HIV preand lesbian rights, AIDS funding, HIV prevention, and housing programs made people believe that Bob Smith was a cold, heartless, shallow, small-minded bigot. In order to solve that public relations problem, a member of the Smith staff came upon the idea of making him a champion of "animal rights." A vote here, a speech there, an article someplace else, and all of a sudden he becomes a champion of the animal rights movement – all at the expense of gay men, lesbians, immigrants, people of color, women, people with AIDS, Americans with disabilities, and the poor.

I cannot comprehend how PETA, an organization that pretends to be concerned

about the oppression of all species, both human and non-human, would ignore Smith's record on issues of concern to pro-gressives. Do you really believe that he cares gressives. Do you reany beneve that it et and about laboratory mice and monkeys? This is a man who has exploited what he thought was a "safe" issue to cloak his record. Un-fortunately, it seems that PETA sees no problem is assisting the Smith charade.

When I first heard that you were going to give an award to Smith, I asked myself if it vere possible for an organization that regularly submits press releases, photos, and celebrity commentaries to the gay media to

be foolish enough to give an award to one of the Senate's staunchest opponents to AIDS funding. I was sure it was a mistake. Would Dan Mathews, PETA's self-de-scribed "AIDS activist" ho-

mosexual spokesmodel catch this faux pas? If he were really an "AIDS activist," he would. After all,

ve don't call Bob Smith "The Jesse Helms of

we don't call Bob Smith "The Jesse Helms of the North" for nothing. Well, we now know that Dan Mathews and his fellow PETA house homosexuals are not AIDS activists. Your organization's alleged "gay AIDS activists" are sitting by and watching PETA honor a man who agrees with Pat Buchanan's homophobic contention that AIDS is somehow "God's punishment." Where is your compassion for the millions of eavs and Jeshians across America, includof gays and lesbians across America, includ-ing Smith's daughter? How dare you honor a man who puts the life of a lab rat above the dignity and honor of his own child? ▼

The number for PETA is (757) 622-7382.

LETTERS

Internal memo

It is a mystery to me as to how so many gay men have managed to escape the information about the new anal condom, Reality, which unfortunately, on the box, says female condom, when it works superbly

for men.

A few pointers:

1. Do not wait until the "moment of truth" to insert these. They take a bit of dexterity and are best done alone, in private, well before the act takes place. the condition alone, in private, well before the act takes place. They come with a lubricant that allows you to install the inside ring neatly in place beforehand. They take a bit of getting used to, as a lot of the condom hangs out before you insert a penis into it. Inside, they give you a slightly full feeling for a bit, but they can be left in place while walking or sitting or standing with no problem.

problem.

2. That strange ring that is inside you does not have any ability to break or shatter under any circumstances, so don't worry about it cutting you. It is so pliable that no amount of bending or twisting could break it. It is also, though you would not think so, not in the way of the penis, no matter how large, and your partner cannot feel it.

3. It is important to sit on the penis or guide it.

3. It is important to sit on the penis or guide it carefully between the "outside ring" to avoid it accidentally slipping into you bare, next to the condom instead of in it.

instead of in it.

4. Any kind of lubricant can be safely used, but the

4. Any kind of lubricant can be safely use water-based give the best "feel."

5. If you tended to get raw or tender in the past during unprotected fucking, this really stops that, as the condom protects the tissues and prevents abrasion.

6. Neither you nor your partner will know it's in place, and I find that you feel a bit panicky at times, not being able to feel it at all, so gently feeling the outer ring with your hand and ensuring the penis is inside it helps out.

7. Removing them afterward is easy.

Penis is inside it nelps out.

7. Removing them afterward is easy.

Be sure to hold the open end closed and do not flush, as it is not flushable due to the nylon rings. The last thing you need to do is clog up the trick's toilet!

8. If, for any reason, you insert one and don't use it that night, do not reuse it in the future. Best to start over even though they are around \$3.a fivel.

over, even though they are around \$3 a fuck.
9. Tell your friends: they feel wonderful. You will

never know you have a condom in place!

Gordon Salter San Francisco

Mailstrom

Behind closed doors

Before I go into the subject of sex club regulation I would like to provide three dictionary definitions. Privacy is the condition of being secluded or isolated from view. Public means open to the knowledge or judgment of all. Voyeur is a person who derives sexual gratification from observing the sexual acts of others. In South Africa during arotheid they are a aud gratification from observing the sexual acts of others. In South Africa during apartheid there was a law called the "Immorality Act" which forbid interracial love affairs. In order to enforce this law the South African government had to implement measures similar to those being considered in San Francisco in regard to the sex clubs. In a culture that prides itself in its constitutional protection of privacy, it takes some smooth talking and deception to implement such laws. In a city that solves the problem of buses never running on time by printing schedules with no times, it is no surprise that they want to destroy the constitutional right to privacy by forbidding rooms with locked doors and requiring monitors to control sexual behavior. As someone who has lived outside San Francisco for most of the last six years I would like to point out that AIDS and the number of deaths in this city is no excuse for the blatant disregard for our city is no excuse for the blatant disregard for our

Gay clubs in most other major cities in the West Gay clubs in most other major cities in the West contain restaurants, bars, wet and dry saunas, gyms, movie rooms, and private locked rooms. It was the court ruling by a judge in the 1980s that set San Francisco aside from the rest of the world. It was this government interference which created the horrible conditions which exist today. It is unbelievable to me that we even have this debate going on. What I do behind closed doors with another adult is nobody's business. closed doors with another adult is nobody's business. It is my personal experience that people in these other cities, mostly in Europe, take sexuality for granted as NATURAL. This is something that is hard for Americans to grasp from our Puritanical "sex is dirty" point of view. It is also my personal experience that in the places which treat sexuality as a NATURAL part of life, putting on a condom before sex is more common. In all my travels in the world I have had more experiences with persons initiating jursafe sex in San experiences with persons initiating unsafe sex in San Francisco. This is a problem of drug abuse and lack of proper education in a nurturing environment. Creating clubs as defined in San Francisco encourage group sex, multiple partners and transmission of STDs. The traditional gay bathhouses were better in all respects.

Robert Starkey

Personal choices

Personal choices

I'm really appalled by the fact that so many of you are waging your personal battles against HIV/AIDS by closing or attempting to close San Francisco's sex clubs. If you were to spend the same amount of time and money towards education programs within the city schools, commercial advertising, etc. you would see the outcome more readily. For all the crying you're doing about HIV/AIDS, how many of you actually get into the dirt of the issue and volunteer some persons.

doing about HIV/AIDS, how many of you actually get into the dirt of the issue and volunteer some personal time to various organizations?

Most, if not all, of these clubs offer the education that you don't see on TV or in most public forums or venues. They also offer a safe place (unlike the parks, alleys, etc.) for people to meet. Why would you want to take this away?

You insist the space at the Power Exchange doesn't allow more than 49 neonle per floor. I've been to this

You insist the space at the Power Exchange doesn't allow more than 49 people per floor. I've been to this club, and it offers more space per person, per floor than some of the restaurants, theaters, bars, etc. that exist in this city and that I've seen filled to capacity and beyond. Who are you trying to fool?

I dogged Tom Ammiano about his proposed legislation concerning our clubs, and I must admit I made a big mistake, now that I've seen the vultures flying in on a feeding frenzy to take away my person-

flying in on a feeding frenzy to take away my person-al freedom to choose where, with whom and how I

Keep the government out of my sex life, out of our sex clubs and definitely out of our personal choices!

Steven D. Keller San Francisco

Sexual liberties

Rene Beauchamp's "Bring back the Bathhouses" (B.A.R., Nov. 28, 1996) says, "Perhaps it's time for the return of the Coalition To Preserve Our Sexual Civil Liberties (which fought the clo-sure of the bathhouses in 1984), renamed the Coalition to Reclaim Our Sexual Liberties."

The Committee to Preserve Our Sexual Liberties.

The Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties is still here (P.O. Box 422385, SF 94142-2385). Twelve years ago The Committee presented Dr. Merv Silverman an ugly tie to commemorate his sneaking through bathhouse closure over the 1984 sneaking through batinnouse closure over the 1904 Christmas holiday. Since then, some things are better and some worse. There seems a much wider perception in the "gay community" scapegoating bathhouses and sex clubs was not the most effective way to stop AIDS. It is not clear the government has learned that. The Committee To Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties participated in drawing up and endorsed the

The Committee To Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties participated in drawing up and endorsed the "Coalition For Healthy Sex" initial "voluntary" guidelines for commercial sex businesses. (Originally the Coalition was intended to set up "guidelines" and then to slowly fade away; instead it later became a formal institutional body largely devoted to inventing programs to justify its continued existence.) We did not endorse extension of government control to "private" sex parties. We did not endorse any use of these voluntary guidelines for regulation. (Dr. Katz has never considered the "voluntary" guidelines anything but regulation and a legitimating pretext for his office's involvement in sex club control.) We have consistently opposed government sex spies, whether contracted to private agencies or run through the SF

sistently opposed government sex spies, whether contracted to private agencies or run through the SF AIDS office or its affiliates.

We do have a 12-year position that gay men have a right to choose their own behaviors and they are responsible for those choices. Insofar as there is a role for "government intervention," it is education and voluntary. We do not believe it is the proper role of government to regulate (whether in "public" or private) those individual choices or to enforce them through legal coercion. through legal coercion.

The Committee has not taken a position on the

Ammiano bill. The bill is irrelevant since Dr. Katz now has discarded even the pretext of "voluntary" guidelines and said he has absolute power to control "public sex" and doesn't need the Ammiano law any-

Intimidation through use of selective "safety" reg-ulations is a violation of constitutional and human rights and should be condemned by all.

We encourage Rene Beauchamp, Michael Petrelis or anyone else raising these issues. I suspect the Shilts/Ammiano/Katz position is going to be around for at least 12 more years.

Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties

Sweet lip flapping

Re the lip flapping over the longevity of certain columnists for the B.A.R. Does Saccharine Labia include the periods when she was, shall we say, indisposed in her accounting of the time she's spent servicing, I mean serving, at the *B.A.R.*?

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LETTERS





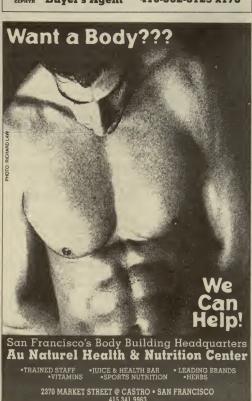


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Project Fail To Inform

Your November 28 story "Project Inform focuses on outreach to communities of color" is disturbing. I on outreach to communities of color is disturbing. I find it ironic that Project Inform is now attempting to use a black person to push toxic drugs on communi-ties of color. Founding Director Martin Delaney failed in his attempts to prevent government funding of black people's attempts at using less toxic methods of fighting AIDS. Mr. Delaney vehemently opposed the use of government funds to test low-dose alpha-interferon as an alternative to AZT. This was not surprising, as one of Project Inform's corporate sponsors manufacturers AZT. PI neglected to inform people manufacturers AZT. PI neglected to inform people that AZT was not HIV-specific, e.g. it is cytotoxic to all cells. It is now failing to inform people that protease inhibitors are inhibiting all protease enzymes in the body. This includes enzymes required for the digestion of proteins, as well as enzymes required for HIV to reproduce. Assimilating proteins is a problem for many people with AIDS. Project Inform's failure to cite this side effect is a major omission.

Project Inform solicits money from drug companies and then advocates the use of the companies drugs. It does not fairly report all side effects of these drugs because of this inherent conflict of interest.

Jay Anthony Oakland, CA

Dumpers and Dumpees

Those individuals being dumped on by ACT Those Individuals being dumped on by Act UP/San Francisco, after they've finished squawking about it, need to get their collective head out of their ass, quit branding the Dumpers as "psychotic criminals," and simply address the issues raised.

Namely, how does viral load in the bloodstream

Namely, how does viral load in the bloodstream correlate to improved immune function over time? Where are the studies showing virus actively cleared from its "sanctuary sites" in the deep lymph tissues and macrophages? If the virus is only being sequestered there, as it appears to be, how does this relate to disease progression after the viral load honeymoon is over? In the process of forcing down viral load, over the long haul have the drugs in question done irreversible harm to the body's organs and imdone irreversible harm to the body's organs and im-

done irreversible narm to the body's organs and immune system?

In all probability, the perceived benefit of protease inhibitors lies in their steroid-like immune suppression, not in any intrinsic antiviral activity — as with the AZT honeymoon. This anti-inflammatory action knocks down symptoms, so the patient feels good, just as with the immune suppressive therapies associated with baboon bone marrow transplants. Would the Dumpees agree or not? And what about the rethe Dumpees agree or not? And what about cent cautious comments by Donald Abrams?

Certainly it would be good if the honeymoon lasts, and hopefully will for a long time, because quality of life is paramount to all people with AIDS. But if it doesn't, as was the case with AZT monotherapy, the pill-pushing Dumpees will have some explaining to do.

Richard A. Lerner San Francisco

Down with the death rate

I'm a physician caring for patients with AIDS in NYC. Over the last 12 months, the death rate from AIDS of our practice has declined just about 50%.

It's nice when independent observations support the decline in obituaries in SF.

Dr. Daniel C. William New York, NY

More vaudeville

When I first spoke to your writer Dennis Conkin about the Oct. 7 incident, I, in fact, in a very agitated state denounced Pat Christen as a racist. In my conversation with the journalist from the *Blade*, I again denounced Christen as a racist targeting BETA's AZT therapy for pregnant women, the majority of whom are African American and Latino. A therapy proven to cause birth defects and a practice that smacks of genocide. Read Conkin's initial cover article and you will find mention of this "therapy" sans any mention of racism. In my E-mail to Pat Christen days after the Oct. 7 incident, I once again denounced her as a

Clearly, I don't give a rat's ass about the etiquette of polite society. The rules and regulations of the ineffectual p.c. liberal left bore me. Whatever "changing the world" activism you speak of, let's get one thing clear. Gay Liberation is not a Calvin Klein underwear ad. Although such marketing is the perfect capitalist consumerist fetish.

I would not be a member of ACT UP/SF if they were not a radical organization. If the tactics of ACT UP/SF it they were not a radical organization. If the tactics of ACT UP/SF disturb you and the insipidly racist gay "community," so be it. In the words of that great vaudeville artist Jimmy Durante, "You ain't seen nuthin yet."

Ronnie Burk

[It was Al Jolson, actually. And we're hardly enthusiastic about the notion.]

Sad homecoming

A few months ago I moved back to San Francisco after eight years of living out in the real world. I'm still having difficulty adjusting to the changes that the city has gone through while I was away. The Castro was once the center of "our" tribal territory; and now it's not. I feel like an exile returning to the burned out shell of my former home.

Out of long-standing habit I made a personal or-nament and hung it on the Christmas tree at "Hiber-nia Beach." Soon afterward it was taken down from nia Beach." Soon afterward it was taken down from that drab, overly-stylized, meaningless bush in front of the Bank of America. That used to be the Christmas tree for the whole Castro community. I hadn't realized that no such sense of community now exists. The tree, and the Castro, now belong to the merchants and the tourists; the people who live and work here mean nothing. The place I once called home is now merely a Third World tourist trap controlled by cold, hearted merchants who care only for their own. cold-hearted merchants who care only for their own profits (and by PC morons who will use anything to

further their own agenda).

I have come home to a ruin crawling with rats and lice. It's kinda sad; I hadn't realized how much we have lost over the years. Marcus once called this place "The Disastro"; he was right. The merchants and PC-Nazis have won the battle and conquered the territory; now it is crumbling and fading away as they make it ever more dull and anti-human. Whenever we seek to conmore dull and alti-lutiliative tribules of the first step toward destroying that which we desired. The Castro, like that bland bank-bush, is just an empty symbol now. It's been a sad homecoming for me

Rick Leathers

Hum bug

Where I live our little paper came out for Decem-Where I live our little paper came out for December. A lot of articles go on and on and on about Peace and Love, about giving presents and spreading joy. It will be Christmas soon. Living trees will be cut down, and warm lights and inside will kill them quicker. Ornaments made by people in other places who don't know what it's all about will be hung everywhere. I will look out my windows and see house after house with lights, and they all look shitty.

"Merry Christmas" will be recited to everyone, and eventually will mean nothing.

I have made two large "Hum Bug" signs. Why? Be-

eventually will mean nothing.

I have made two large "Hum Bug" signs. Why? Because it seems to me that a hell of a lot of gay men and women have the spirit all year long. We donate our buns off. We spread this special humor we all have all the time. I personally have been told often that I make Christmas for someone almost every day. Dammit, but we have this special little spark deep down inside each and every one of us. It is something that a lot of straights will never know. What if everyone did it with deeds instead of insipid decorations? one did it with deeds instead of insipid decorations?
How does this possibly make the world better?

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year, but urely energies could be directed toward positive things. Like gay people seem to just naturally do, all

Chuck Kennedy

Have you checked your label today?

Congratulations to the honorable Sheila Kuehl on being named speaker pro tem. However, the B.A.R. incorrectly describes her as "the first woman and gay to hold post." Assemblywoman Kuehl is not "gay." She to hold post." Assemblywoman Kuehl is not "gay." Šhe is a *lesbian*. If you must use "gay" when alluding to women, it is an adjective. The noun refers to men only. To consistently describe lesbians as gays contributes to the invisibility of homosexual women. On your front page alone there are two other headline examples of the same misnomer: "Hawaii judge rules for gay marriage," "The California Lavender Smokefree Project takes Folsom Fair, gay press to task." I understand the need for brevity in headline copy, but never do I see the phrase "lesbian men" or descriptions like "Jim Hormel, eminent lesbian." As lesbians fight for full recognition in the world, we must insist on accurate and equal representation in the *homosexual* press.

Eleanor Ruckman

[No, what we have to do is fight important battles, not waste so much time dividing people with P.C. bullshit. If you want to play semantics, "homosexual press" refers to a press that has sex with others of the same gender; according to our reference works, "lesbian" is exclusively single-gender, whereas "gay" is not. By the way, Assemblywoman Kuehl uses "gay" to describe herself, but perhaps if you give her a stern talking-to from your very high horse, she'll see the error of her ways. Sheesh!]

Please send letters - if they are brief, to the point, typed (or at least readable), and more reasonable than the one directly above – to the B.A.R., 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco 94103.

State loses **Cabinet muscle**

by Wayne Friday

ith President Bill Clinton's second-term Cabinet now nearly completed, the Golden State stands to lose much of the clout it enjoyed during his first term. Indeed, considering his first term. Indeed, considering the powerful positions that are being vacated, Californians are leaving the Cabinet practically bare of important members from this state.

this state.

White House Chief of Staff
Leon Panetta is departing next
month to return home to Carmel
to consider a run for governor in
1998. Secretary of State Warren
Christopher and Commerce
Secretary Mickey Kantor, both Californians,
are leaving the Cabinet

tor, both Californians, are leaving the Cabinet. Defense Secretary William Perry is returning to Stanford University, and the list of new Clinton Cabinet appointees is remarkably California-free **Our Man Friday**

markably Cal-ifornia-free. In fact, I am hard-pressed to think of a single Californian in that august group. Senator **Di**that august group. Senator Di-anne Feinstein probably put it best when she remarked last week that "for these four years, the pres-ident needed California, and now — in the crassest analysis — he doesn't," adding that "it would be hard for me to see the administra-tion not wanting to pay attention to California." to California."

Not to worry, DiFi. One top White House aide, noticing that California seems to be getting passed over, told reporters that "the attention California received "the attention California received these past years by the president was, as much as anything, driven by Bill Clinton rather than having a bunch of Californians in the Cabinet, so not by any stretch of the imagination should you suggest that California is going to get shorted if there aren't an equal number of people from the state who emerge in the 'Clinton II' Cabinet."

Politics and people

Finance records show that it cost East Bay Congresswoman-elect **Ellen Tauscher** a whopping \$2-1/2 million to oust GOP in-cumbent Representative **Bill Baker** in last month's election. So? She won, didn't she? If you want to talk about spendthrift politicos, what about "Iron" Mike Huffington? Arianna's hubbie spent a record \$27 million of his own money to lose to Dianne Fe-

instein.

Incidentally, now that all the congressional elections are over (including the three runoffs held in Texas last week), the new 105th Congress' final tally will be 227 Republicans in the House, 207 Democrats and one Independent, with the GOP controlling the Senate 55-45.

Political rarity: Forty years ago in 1956, West Virginia voters elected Republican Cecil Underwood, then 34, their youngest-ever governor. Last month that state again elected the same man, now 74, as the state's oldest gov-

Close Shave Dept.: In South Dakota, a recount showed that one candidate for the state legislature won her seat by a single vote. In the next district, the winner won his seat by only two

While I am not exactly Bill Clinton's biggest fan, I have to agree with some in the White House (and James Carville in particular) that Independent Counsel **Kenneth Starr**, who is heading the Whitewater investigation, is far from "independent." Starr is clearly a partisan Republican with a partisan agenda (he recently even shared a podium recently even shared a podium with good friend Pat Robertson) and should be replaced with someone who could be truly ob-

Just curious, but did anyone

up the porcine Rush Limbaugh a couple of years ago on his \$1 million bet that Bill Clinton wouldn't be re-elected and that the nation's economy would go belly up?

I'm told by a very reliable source that in the event the cur-rent term lim-

its law is overturned. East Bay its law is overturned, East Bay state Senator Bill Lockyer, who reportedly already has over \$2 million in the bank for a run for attorney general, would stay in his powerful senate president post and Quentin Kopp would then very likely quickly rejoin the Democratic Party and immediately announce for AG. Remember, you read it here first!

A new USA

A new USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll released this week shows President Clinton this week shows President Clinton riding high as he readies for a second term with a 58 percent approval rating, up four points since his re-election. While Clinton won approval of voting women last month, 54-38 percent, now even men approve of him by a similar margin – 57 percent for men as compared to 58 percent for women.

for women.

My NYC informants tell me that many gay and lesbian Demo-cratic Party activists are helping that city's mayor, **Rudolph Giu**liani, a liberal Republican, in his upcoming re-election bid. My holiday note from the ail-

My holiday note from the ali-ing Herb Caen, long my journal-istic hero, reads: "Cheers to the Herb Caen of the Castro – Wayne Friday; Onward! [signed] Herb Caen, 12/12/96." And it's hand-written by that revered icon of the columnist world, to boot!

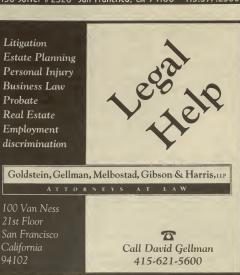
While on the subject of the Holidays, let me take this opportunity to wish the best Yuletide and a brighter New Year to many people I write about during the year and to many I don't but who are nevertheless special to me. Sincere Season's Greetings to **Boh** Sincere Season's Greetings to Bob Ross; my ever-patient editor Mike Salinas and the entire B.A.R. staff; Mick Ridolfi; D.A. Terence Hallinan and family; Jack Davis; Carole Migden; Ted Fang; Mike and Beverly Hennessey; Angela Alioto; Dennis Collins; Supes Susan Leal, Tom Ammiano and Leslie Katz; Rod McKuen; Kay Tsenin; Larry Bush; Juanita Owens; Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon: Dan and Donna Addario Dwens; Det Martin and Phyllis Lyon; Dan and Donna Addario; Kevin Shelley; Arlo and Helen Smith; Chuck Haines; Milton and Carolene Marks; Hector, Gardner and Ed; Bob Golovich; Art and Sherry Agnos; David



Municipal Court Judge-Elect Kay Tsenin thanked supporters at a Dec. 16 party at the Fairmont. She announced she will be sworn in Jan. 10, her 50th birthday, in the Board of Supervisors

Webb and The Giraffe staff;
Tom Horn; Kevin Wadsworth
and Paul Johnson; Doris Ward;
Rev. Cecil Williams and Janice
Mirikitani; Dr. Marge Poscher;
Allen White; Randy Alfred;
Mike Housh and Rick Pacurer;
Paul Petroni; Cloey and Skip
Hewlett; Paul Melbostad; Dick
Hongisto; Ken Cady and David
Tan; Michael Colbruno; Herb
and Ann Caen; Cheryl Crane;
entertainer extraordinaire
David Kelsey of the *P.S.
Lounge; Chuck, Reba, Rachel
and the entire staff of the
*P.S.; Chuck Davis; Sue Bierman; Larry Kramer; Robert
Dakes; Jim Rivaldos; Sharon
McNight; Robert Barnes;
Mabel Teng; Dianne Feinstein
and Dick Blum; Anthony Garrett; Kevin McCarthy; Connie
O'Connor; Frank Robinson;
Marcus Conant; Tony and
Kathy Ribera; Robert Bernardo: Larry Enginette: Tim Wol-Marcus Conant; Tony and Kathy Ribera; Robert Bernar-do; Larry Eppinette; Tim Wol-fred; David Binder; Bruce Petit; Harry Britt; Julie Tang; John Burton; Phil Matier; Jack John Burton; Phil Matter; Jack Molinari; Danny Nicoletta; Scott Shafer; Nancy and Paul Pelosi; Dick Pabich; Steve Rascher; Charlie LaMorte; Carol Stuart; Andy Ilves; Lil-lian Sing; Jeff Sheehy; Joh Kouba; Frank and Wendy Paskin Jordan; Keith Vines; Chris Rowman: Morgan and Paskin Jordan; Keith Vines; Chris Bowman; Morgan and the staff at The Cafe; Warren Hinckle; Teddy Hirshfield; John Laird; Michael O'Malley; Jeff Getty; Philip Turner and all at Daddy's; the winsome Sweet Lips and the Polk Ren-dezvous gang; Tom Nolan; Linda Post; that faboo Castro florist, Bella; Dana Van Gorder; John Wahl; Margo St. James; Peter Nardoza: Barbara and Peter Nardoza; Barbara and Stewart Boxer; Jose Sarria; Jo Daly; Barbara Kaufman; Quentin Kopp; Hydie Dow-nard; the gang at The Edge; Herb Donaldson; Roberta nard; the gang at The Edge; Herb Donaldson; Roberta Achtenberg; Ron Ross; Richard, Mario and The Cinch staff; Leland Yee; Pat Nor-man; everyone at Marlena's; Michael Greer; Doug Com-stock; Lia Belli; Jay Noonan; Rob Morse; Bob Dockendorf; Gwenn Craig; Reggie Williams; Hank Plante; Ken Maley; Sal Rosselli; Lily Tom-lin; Ron Albers; Mary Callanan; and Don Rogers and the Ginger's Too staff. To all of you, my very best.





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Field day



ongstress Sharon McNight belts out that perennial favorite, "Over the Rainbow," before a crowd o some 250 people that included noted politicos Milton Marks, Carole Migden, Willie Brown and Susan Leal at the Dec. 15 dedication of Rikki Streicher Field at Collingwood Park. The event took

Geek grrrlz rule!

by Beth Elliott

'm Too Sexy for My Mouse, Too Sexy for My Mouse Dept.: Call it synchronicity if you will, but the week I got tapped to set up a sizable hypertext pro-ject from scratch at Th' Day Job was the week Gary Trudeau had was the week Gary Trudeau had Kim the Programmer propose to Mike Doonesbury by asking him to join her in a software start-up. After designing templates for close to 700 pages, I had ample in-centive to figure out a series of word processing macros that

would automate the copying of files and replacing file data for the hyperlinks

hyperlinks.

To help get myself into a frame of mind of believing I could carry this off no sweat, I photocopied a Doonesbury panel, enlarged it, and slapped it on my wall at work. It's the one where Mike's looking over Kim's shoulder while she's lost in his production. hinary and saying, "You know, there's nothing sexier that a girl geek on a big coding run." Of course, I pasted over the binary with <A HREF= (the binary with A FIREF= (the start of the code for a hyper-link). And indeed, when I got to cruising along, I felt pretty darned pleased with

myself.

So then another bit of Sapphistication

synchronicity happened: thanks to some new distribution scheme that leaves the Wall Street Journal on a table in the coffee room at Th' Day Job, I the Corlect from at 111 Day job, 1 learned that same week that Rosie the Riveter invented computer programming. It's true! I think I'd heard there were women involved early on, but hadn't known that the first electronic computer – the ENIAC – had been programmed by six women: Marlyn Wescoff, Ruth Lichterman, Kay McNulty, Frances Bilas, Betty Snyder Holberton, and Jean Jennings Bartik.

Best and brightest

They were "computers" - cal-culator operators called what the culator operators called what the machine would eventually be called, just as typists were once "typewriters"—doing calculations on adding machines to figure trajectories for WWII artillery gunners. As the best and brightest, they were recruited to reconfigure the disk and cables of the new the dials and cables of the new Electronic Numerical Integrator and Computer at the University of Pennsylvania for each new problem. They had no manuals or programming languages at all: just the machine and human logic. They had to figure out how to "program" it themselves. And since the Army brass in charge of the project considered them merely clerical workers, they were denied security clearance to enter the ENIAC room and had to fig-ure out the machine from wiring diagrams!

And they succeeded – though typically, credit for the first computer programming went to the hardware engineers with whom they worked. It took a Harvard undergraduate programmer, Kathryn Kleiman, to follow the trail of a lone footnote to the fe-male inventors of computer programming. Now an attorney in Rosslyn, Virginia, she has been attempting for years to get software companies to put up the money for a documentary on the ENIAC programmers, five of whom are still alive. WSJ columnist Thomas

Petzinger Jr. points out that an over-fascination with the hardware, and old-fashioned sexism, have kept the industry and the public from realizing the technology's debt to these women.

After the ENIAC was unveiled to the public, Jean Bartik joined mathemati

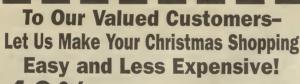
cian Adele Goldstine in

leading a team to create "stored programs" so that the hardware would not have to be rewired for each problem. While mathematician John van Nuemann published the first paper on the theory of internal programming, Jean Bartik was the geek grrl who actually invented and wrote the first code.

Bartik and Betty Holberton were reunited in 1948 at the ENIAC creators' new firm (the first high-tech start-up?) to help create the first general-purpose electronic computer, the Universal Automatic Computer or UNI-VAC. Holberton sweated out the "human engineering" that would make the UNIVAC user-friendly which meant intuitive. Working with mnemonics of her own devising, she wrote the first programming language, C-10, which made it possible to control the computer with typewritten com-mands instead of electrical hard-ware. The number pad alongside the typewriter keyboard, which allows numbers to be entered as easily as letters, is also her invention – and it is a feature of PCs and Macs today.

But programming languages are only as good as the applications written in them. Betty Holberton headed the development of a "sort generator" that could of a "sort generator" that could organize payroll, inventory, and other data according to user-defined parameters. This was the first instance of using a computer to program an application. Remaining in the field through 1983, Holberton led the committee analysis to speak extended. 1903, Following to create standards for a Common Business Oriented Language (COBOL) and played a similar role in the creation of

next page



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A twin and his penis: separated at birth

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

here's something fascinating about identical twins. Any identical twins. But one par-ticular pair has been the focus of attention by psychologists and scientists almost since the time they were born. Why? Because of a tragic accident that befell one of a trage accident that betell one of them while he was being circum-cised, an accident that – you guessed it – destroyed his penis. The electrocautery knife was set with too high a current, and the

entire penis became necrotic and sloughed off.

This was in 1965 or thereabouts. The parents were extremely upset, of course. They agtremely upset, of course, They agonized over what to do. Eventually they were persuaded to have the child surgically reassigned as a girl. And so, when the child was about one year old, its testicles were removed. This was intended to be the first stage of sex reassignment; the second stage, construction of a vagina, was to be carried out around muberty. carried out around puberty.
In taking this course of action,

In taking this course of action, the parents were strongly supported by John Money, a sexologist at Johns Hopkins Medical School. Influenced by the "standard social sciences model" that dominated developmental psychology in the 1960s, Money had promoted the notion that gender identity is learned during childhood. Therefore, he reasoned, this child could learn to be a girl, if the parents treated it as such. So he urged them to do so, and he told them that the child would develop into a heterosexual woman with a female heterosexual woman with a female neterosexual woman with a temale gender identity. The parents did as he suggested, dressing the "girl" in frilly blouses, letting her hair grow long, and encouraging her to help with the housework.

For a long time, it seemed like

Money's prophesy would be ful-filled. Every year, the parents came back with glowing reports about their son's masculinity and their daughter's femininity. "She likes for me to wipe her face," said her mother. "She doesn't like to be dirty, and yet my son is quite dif-ferent. I can't wash his face for anything." And at Christmastime the son asked for a toy garage, but the daughter asked for a

daughter asked for a doll's house. They were re-hearsing, as Money believed, their respective adult roles as breadwinner and nurturer. Still, the daughter wasn't always the demure little

ways the demure little girl. Once, when the twins were five years old, they were taking a bath together, and the boy started bragging about his Queer Science

penis. "He managed to get a hard-on," his mother said, "and he was

on," his mother said, "and he was standing there and saying, 'Look what I got, 'poud as a peacock, and she got so mad she slapped him - she didn't like it - right on his little penis."

Money wrote about these twins on several occasions, and they came to be seen as the strongest possible support for his theory of gender. They even made their way into college textbooks as proof of the "overriding role of life experiences in molding human sexuality."

Gender identity reorder

But when the children came to But when the children came to puberty, a funny thing happened. Money stopped writing about them. Just when everyone wanted to hear about how the boy grew up into a studly young man, and the girl into a charming young lady they are stillned.

the girl into a charming young lady, there was silence.
It took some detective work by Micky Goldberg, a sexologist at the University of Hawaii, to

find out what had come of the twins. The boy grew up into a man as expected. The girl, when she was 12, was given esfrogens to induce puberty (since she had no ovaries to produce her own estrogens). So she grew breasts, but she hated them. She began dressing and living as a male, using the name "tohn." At fourteen, she demanded and received a bilateral mastectomy. In the following two

tomy. In the following two years she asked for and under-

tomy. In the following two years she asked for and underwent operations to reconstruct a scrotum and a penis, thus changing sex for a second time. John was sexually attracted to girls, never to boys. From the age of 18 he had sex with girls, with the aid of a prosthesis. He now lives with a woman, and the couple have adopted children. It's amazing to me how many psychologists still cling to the notion that a person's sense of whether they are a man or a woman is learned - a consequence of role modeling, rewards and punishments, and the like. These twins tell a very different story. They're telling us that gender is something you're born with something robust enough to show itself, no matter what life throws in your way.

Simon LeVay, Ph.D. is well-known for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of Queer Science (MIT Press, 1996) and the co-author (with Elisabeth Nonas) of City of Friends. He is also the co-founder of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. He can be reached care of the Bay Area Reporter or at SLeVay@aol.com



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Sapphistication

previous page

FORTRAN

Female misfits

Not only were the inventors of computer programming female, they were also misfits as women geek girls, if you will. Betty Holberton was teased in school for being left-handed and cross-eyed. Her music teacher told her she stood on the wrong side of her double bass (a bass player, too? Yee, hah! Women bass players rule

- if I do say so myself!). And her math professor in college tried on the first day of class to convince her to get married and raise children instead. Jean Bartik grew up on a farm in Missouri, where she kicked her brothers' butts in softball. For fun, she studied Latin. In college, she took physics and trigonometry.

trigonometry.

Of course, once people figured out that software was where some major action was happening, men swarmed into the field – with the attitude that it was their field, despite the fact that women created it. Even in grade schools, boys try

to monopolize the computers (so they can play shoot-'em-up games?) and say computers are for boys. Columnist Petzinger points out, with disapproval, the fact that the proportion of women study-ing computer science has been declining for a decade – even though Mills has one of the best programs

around.

This geekgrrl is doing her part to combat this: while I'm away, get yourself greeted for the holidays at the beth page, http://www.best.com/-beth3b/. I've posted some of my hand-drawn solstice card art (?) from years past.

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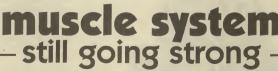
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On both sides of the aisle: the gay marriage op-ed round-up

by Don Romesburg, GLAAD/SF media resource center manager

ince the December 3 Baehr v. Miike ruling in favor of same-sex marriage, people from all around the country have weighed in with their opinions. The issue, once discussed only by the major metropolitan papers, the major metropolitan papers, has now become truly national in scope, as smaller towns such as Waco, Texas, and Rapid City, Montana weigh in on the issue.

• The December 11 edition of the Waco Tribune Herald featured an editorial by Senior Editor Rowland Nethaway in which he notes

land Nethaway in which he notes that "The fact that up to 80 percent of Americans oppose gay marriages is not the point. The majority rules insofar as it does not infringe upon the rights and freedoms granted to all Americans who must be afforded equal treatment under the heur".

treatment under the law."

• On December 10, columnist Ron Marr of the Rapid City [Montana] Journal wrote in "On Gay Marriage, Some Healthy In-tolerance, Please" that Judge Chang had demonstrated "sunstroke brain spasms" in ruling for same-sex marriage. Of gay people he says, "It's not enough for this mewling crowd to make their own choices and shut up about it; they

want a standing ovation. Our tol-erance ends when we are told what to think or believe, when we are told to disregard our values and conscience in order to satisfy

the odd and narcissistic wishes of a vocal subculture."

• Conservative Washington Post columnist Jonathan Yardley, who has in the past not supported gay issues, wrote a December 9 column in favor of same-sex mar-riage, saying that, "If two people want to cohabit in a peaceful way under a formal arrangement that

under a formal arrangement that causes no threat to others, what right do the rest of us have to prevent them from doing so?"

• The December 7 edition of the Los Angeles Times had a "Community Essay" from Kirby Tepper, who noted, "By the time Showboat was written [the late 1970e] the law Los intersection. 1920s], the law [on inter-racial marriage] was changing, even though public opinion had not. Isn't it interesting that countless people flock to see *Showboat* and people flock to see Showboat and take it for granted that the bad guys are the ones who try to stop the marriage between the black woman and the white man? Gay people deserve the same application of the law.

tion of the law."

• The Chicago Tribune's December 8 editorial pleads for "separate but equal," saying, "There is an obvious way to accommodate the interests of gays without insulting traditional conceptions of

matrimony: provide a legal framework for homosexuals who want more or less permanent partnerships and give it some other name that marriage."

On December 9, USA Today had an editorial in favor of samesex marriage, while printing an opposing view by homophobic religious radical Lou Sheldon.

Speak now or forever hold your peace on MSNBC

At the MSNBC website, the at the MSNBC website, the question is currently being posed: "Same-sex marriage – The end of family life as we know it ...or no big deal?" The responses vary from the hostile to the

vary from the hostile t supportive.

The question is worded oddly. After all, same-sex marriage is a "big deal," but it is not the "end of family life as we know it." While the legal sanction of same-sex marriage of

will bring additional rights that lesbian, gay, and bisex ual couples fundamentally de-serve, it will also enhance the fam-ily life of thousands of lesbian, gay, and bisexual couples, with or without children, who already have loving, committed relationships.
Feel free to speak out on this

GLAAD

online forum at http://www.msnbc.com/news/447 91.asp and take a stand for samesex marriage and against this Catch-22 question. Contact: Mark Harrington, Vice President, Fort Lee NJ 07024, fax: 201.583.5512, e-mail: fea-

Uncivilized Honda Civic ad

A national Honda ad is driving GLAAD and our community to distress. A young man in his 1997 Civic is shown being interviewed for several implicitly undesirable career opportunities, including raising emu and selling hot dogs in the desert. In the last interview

the man talks to a sailor who says,
"Twelve men, one boat— What
could be better?" while placing his hand on the man's

shoulder. The man looks worriedly at the sailor's hand and then at the audience, as if to say, "Help me." The idea that the

a threat to this man's presumed heterosexuality is clearly the intent of the commer-

cial's final scene. The "punchline" plays on societal fear and discomfort with homosexuality, and the assumption that this Civic-driving man is straight and narrow-minded while the sailor is gay and predatory. This is a homophobic, stereotypical lemon of a joke. GLAAD has received dozens of AlertLine calls and e-mails about this offensive, thoughtless and insulting commercial.

Tell Honda that stooping to

anti-gay stereotyping is certainly a way to drive away customers.

Contact: Koichi Amemiya, President, American Honda Motor Co., Inc., 1919 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance CA 90501, fax: 310.783.3900,

King of idiocy

After Jonathan Schmitz was sentenced for second-degree mur-der for the shooting death of openly gay Scott Amedure, the media has made its final pro-nouncements on the trial. The Detroit Free Press featured columnist Susan Ager's December 8 enlightened essay which said, "The tragedy of Jonathan Schmitz is not that talk show producers set him up to be ambushed by a gay man's crush, but that society trained him to be humiliated and angered by it – to the point of murder. Fuses like this smolder from childhood, lit by parents, teachers, and ministers who deteachers, and ministers who de-monize gay men and women, and who label homosexuality a per-version ...by movies and locker room talk that makes fun of gays, leading a guy like Schmitz to ago-nize, perhaps, over what Ame-dure's crush on him implied about his own sexuality." She adds, "Most of us never kill some-one who embarrasses us. It is a tragedy that Jonathan Schmitz could see no other point." The December 4 episode of

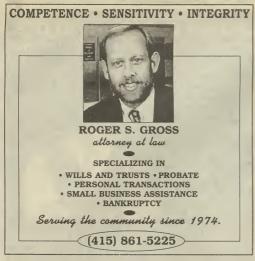
Larry King Live, on the other hand, perpetuated the worst of the "talk show on trial" hype, coupled with the nineties version of the "homosexual panic" defense, by painting the murderer as vic-tim. King tried to egg the Ame-dures into saying the sentence should not have been first-degree murder because, "[Schmitz is] obviously not a murderer. ...Isn't the sentence about right consider-ing all the extenuating circum-stances in this case?" When the Amedures failed to take the bait, King said, "There has to be a reason for why people do what they do. He wasn't robbing a bank."

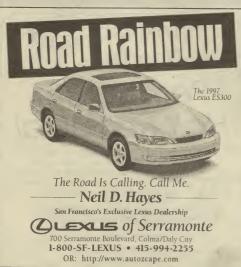
Later, King brought Allyn Schmitz (Jonathan's father) in, who said he thought the sentence was too strict considering "his mental condition and how he was basically lured onto the Jenny Jones show and then basically stalked by Scott Amedure who, in my opinion, was a sexual predator."

Please thank Susan Ager for her clear-headed and sane re-sponse amid the hype and insanity. Tell Larry King that he has dishonored Amedure and dimin ished the severity of anti-gay hate crimes with his words. Contact: Susan Ager, Detroit Free Press, 321 West Lafayette, Detroit MI 48226, fax: 313.223.4726, email: ager@det-freepress.com; Larry King, Larry King Live, CNN, 820 1st Street, NE, Washington DC 20002, fax: 202.898.7686, e-mail:

Ikl@cnn.com.

GLAAD promotes fair, accurate, and inclusive representa-tion as a means of challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity. Contact GLAAD by e-mail at glaad@glaad.org or by phone at (415) 861-2244. Report defamation in the media by calling GLAAD's Toll-Free AlertLine! 1-800-GAY-MEDIA (1-800-429-







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♦ Christmas Day

-10:00 a.m. Eucharist with Carols

Bethany United Methodist Church 1268 Sanchez at Clipper & 647-8393 BethanyUMC@aol.com The Rev. Karen Oliveto, Pastor

♦ December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent -11:00 a.m. Christmas Jazz Service

Christmas Eve

- 5:00 p.m. A Service for the Child in All of Us

-11:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight and Carols

♦ Christmas Day

-11:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service "We Are Gay and Straight Together!"

Dolores Street Baptist Church 938 Valencia Street at Liberty \$ 826-2641
The Rev. Douglas M. Donley, Pastor

\$ December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent
-10:00 a.m. "My Soul Magnifies the Lord"

♦ Christmas Eve

- 7:30 p.m. "The Music of Christmas"
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The Rev. Jim Lawer, Pastor

* Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m.

† Christmas Eve - 8:30 p.m.

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♦ Christmas Eve -11:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Prelude Music starts at 10:30 p.m.

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♦ Christmas Day - 10:30 a.m. Christmas Potluck Dinner to follow "An open and welcoming, active, spiritual community striving to share the divine in our lives with all people."

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♦ Sunday Services -8:00 & 10:30 a.m \$\display Christmas Eve

-10:30 p.m. Christmas Madrigals with the Schola Cantorum

-11:00 p.m. First Mass of the Nativit of Jesus Christ

♦ Christmas Day

-10:00 a.m. Mass of the Nativity Childcare available at 10:30 service 'A safe place for you to be.

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The Revs. Jim Mitulski & Penny Nixon ♦ Sunday Services

-9:00 & 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. ♦ Christmas Eve -7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Holy Communion

♦ Christmas Dav

-11:00 a.m. Worship -12:00 noon Community Dinner "A House of Prayer for All People

Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church 100 Diamond at 18th (In the Castro) ***** 863-6259 The Rev. Zachary J. Shore, Pastor ♦ Christmas Eve

- 9:30 p.m. Carol Service -10:00 p.m. Liturgy of Christmas

♦ Christmas Day

 -8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Masses

♦ January 5 Epiphany - 10:00 a.m. Our special Christmas program-with choral and carol singing, strings, harp, and winds-is celebrated at our Christmas Eve service, and again on Epiphany.

Noe Valley Ministry - Presbyterian Church 1021 Sanchez Street * 282–2317

♦ Sunday Dec. 22 -6:00 p.m. Community Caroling around the grand piano upstairs at Ministry.

♦ Christmas Eve - 7:00 p.m.

♦ Christmas Day -10:00 a.m. Christmas Communion Service

♦ New Year's Eve Service

- 7:00 p.m. Letting go the old.

St. Francis Lutheran Church 152 Church Street ❖ 621-2635 Pastors: James DeLange, Ruth Frost, Michael Hiller, and Phyllis Zillhart

♦ Christmas Eve 10:30 p.m. Carols and Preludes 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion

♦ Christmas Day -11:00 a.m. Festival Eucharist with Choir

St. John's United Church of Christ 501 Laguna Honda Blvd & 731-9333 The Rev. Roger Ridgway, Pastor John Lehrack, Minister of Music

♦ Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. ♦ Christmas Eve

30 p.m. Carols & Bible readings Reception follows
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St. Mark's Lutheran Church 1111 O'Farrell Street ***** 928–7770 Pastors: Jack Lundin, Stanley Olson & Frank

♦ December 22 & 29 -8:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist

-9:45 a.m. Adult Forum -11:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist ♦ Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Family Service & Children's Pageant 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Choral Eucharist ♦ Christmas Day

11:00 a.m. Festival Choral Eucharist

First Baptist Church of Berkeley 2345 Channing Way * 510-848-5838 Corner of Dana and Durant Streets The Rev. Esther Hargis, Pastor ♦ Sunday Worship

-10:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Jazz Service 11:00 a.m. Epiphany Party - January 4th

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♦ Christmas Eve

- 5:00 p.m. Family Service for all ages -9 & 11:00 p.m. Candlelight & Carols "An Open and Affirming Church

First Congregational Church, Alameda 1912 Central Avenue ❖ 510-522-6012 Larry Schulz & Joyce Ellis, Ministers

♦ Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. Family Service of Worship and Church School Pageant -10:45 p.m. Candlelight Carol Service

Trinity United Methodist Church Berkeley 2362 Bancroft Way \$ 510-548-4716 The Rev. Kim Smith, Pastor; The Rev Odette Lockwood-Stewart, Campus Minister Sunday Celebration of Worship

-10:00 a.m ♦ Christmas Eve

- 5:30 p.m. Service for Children and Families

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

Congregational Church of Belmont 751 Alameda de las Pulgas * 593-4547 The Rev. Wendy Taylor, Pastor

♦ Sunday Worship -10:30 a.m.♦ Christmas Eve

5:30 p.m. Family Service 7:30 Service with Disciples of Christ

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4 basic gay gift groups

by Mike Salinas

here's something about the essential squareness of the number four that seems to appeal to everyone. Native Americans quartered the universe into icans quartered the universal active and passive principles; brides have their something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue; Catholics have the Father, the Son, the Holy Ghost, and the Pope. Your mom had the four basic food groups.

The gay and lesbian community has its four basic groups, too, especially when it comes to holiespecially when it comes to holi-day shopping. We tend to eschew boring old-fashioned gift cate-gories like "usefu!)" "sensible," and "something you'll grow into." Our four basic gift groups can best be divided into romantic; political; camp; and basic black.

Oh sure, some gifts overlap: it's like Richard Simmons's Deal-A-Meal™ system, where a paté en croûte costs both a bread card and croute costs both a bread card and a fat card. An antique feather fan may be both black and camp, for example, or the latest Ferron album may be both political and romantic, but it is generally possible to categorize every item on gay holiday shopping lists as some variation on those four

It's enough to make one won-

der if the Three Wise Men weren't at least a little gay: they brought the baby Jesus gold (which is potitle baby Jesus gold (which is political); frankincense (which is romantic); and myrrh (which is black and camp).

With all the above in mind, the B.A.R.'s team of crack inves-

tigative reporters have allowed themselves to be tossed into the melee of holiday shopping to examine the best political, camp, romantic, and basic black gifts the stores have to offer this year. From the heights of Polk Street to the depths of Eureka Valley (or vice-versa, if you are so inclined), their efforts have unearthed delights for virtually anyone who's

on anyone's list.

Whatever their quest, the shopping sleuths agreed the better gay gifts are to be found at establishments owned and operated by gay and lesbian (and bisex-ual and transgender, naturally) people. Homosexual workers people. Homosexual workers tend to be extraordinarily helpful, knowledgeable, and even intu-itive, and everyone who supports a gay business expresses gay pride in a tangible way. And with enough of that going on, every-one in the community – whether shopping for Christmas. Kwanshopping for Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, or the Winter Solstice – has something wonderful to celebrate. ▼

Gay Chorus, Phantom star to come home to the Castro

by Rene M. Astudillo

isa Vroman, who plays the role of Christine in the San Francisco production of the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical The Phantom of the Opera, will be the special guest star when the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus (SFGMC) returns to the Castro Theatre this Tuesto the Castro Theatre this Tuesday, December 24 for its annual "Home for the Holidays."

Vroman, who has been the heroine of the Victorian melodrama for four years as a member of the national touring company, has consistently played to rave reviews by critics and theatre audiences. The Christmas Eve performance with SFGMC provides her a much-needed break from her six performances a week at the Curran Theatre. Last week, the San Francisco company of *Phantom* marked its third anniversary and 1,260th performance.

'Home for the Holidays" is SFGMC's animal Christmas Eve concert, which Artistic Director concert, which Artistic Director Stan Hill describes as the chorus's "gift to the community." Aside from the personal time chorus members have to give up of their traditional Christmas Eve activities, a lot of logistical work has to be done to put up these concerts. Hill says that because the Castro Theatre is not designed for live

shows, SFGMC literally has to

shows, SFGMC literally has to "bring in our own electricity and lighting."

But all this work is paying off year in and year out. Since it started seven years ago, "Home for the Holidays" has been attended by over 20,000 people, with two full-house performances each year. Because of the overwhelming support and response to the concerts, SFGMC is adding a third performance this year. The shows will be at 5, 7, and 9 p.m. "We have also committed never to raise ticket prices to make this holiday show af-

to make this holiday show af-fordable to everyone,"Hill added. Aside from Vroman, Aus-tralian organist Don Thompson will join SFGMC for the Castro Theatre concert.

Theatre concert.

Just like its audiences, the chorus is continuously growing. It now has a singing membership of 180, not to mention its volunteer staff that helps with production and fund development. This year's concert at the Castro Theatre, culminates, an extremely busy and productive year for the chorus, highlighted by the commissioning and CD recording of Naked Man, composed by Robert Seeley, and the trip to Tampa, Florida to attend the Gay and Lesbian Association (GALA) of Choruses' quadrennial festival. Right now, the chorus is gearing up for its 20th anniversary concerts and activities in 1998.



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Walkin' in a camp wonderland

by Mary Richards

his year, as fabulous presents for good girls and boys have been arriving from the wintry snowland of the North Pole, the fine camp sensibility of Mr. and Ms. Claus is being revealed. Santa's helpers have been busy preparing some the second more consultations. preparing some the season's most creative camp gifts. With great foresight the Clauses had them delivered all over San Francisco, so we toured our neighborhood stores to bring you the best selec-

The Polkstrasse

The upper area of Polk Street is filled with interesting restaurants, intimate shops, and a sort of faded, jaded pizzazz. Russian Hill Antiques (2200) shows some classy items for the smoker who wishes they were back in 1030. wishes they were back in 1930: Bakelite cigarette holders (\$38); light metal cigarette nolders (\$38); light metal cigarette cases (\$34); and pewter cigar holders (\$57). When one changes lovers the first step is to redo that love sofa, and the place to go is Russian Hill Upholstery & Decor (2420). They also have a selection of the campest throw pillows this side of a Lana Turner movie (\$65-115).

J. Goldsmith Antiques (1924) is an absolute must on the list of every camp aficionado. Their extraordinary collectibles include some wonderful animal cookie jars: Panda Bear (\$28); Mouse (\$55); and Owl (\$43), Their chandelier ornaments (\$7) and pink butterflies (\$4) make and pink butterflies (\$4) make

and pink butterflies (\$4) make great socking stuffers.

Catnip + Bones at 1463
Broadway and Polk copes with Christmas by offering the campest designer wear and accessories for our four-legged friends. For the drag queen in every doggie they offer leopard skin, gold lamé, and purple mohair designer jackets (\$40); doggie Santa hats (\$8-10); trendy zebra-design cat scratching post with black tassel trim (\$85); and the ultimate studded black leather jacket and ded black leather jacket and matching hat (\$45 and \$24).

Fillmore fantasia

Our first stop in on Fillmore Street was Fillamento (at number 2185), where fantasy camp reigns supreme. Their Christmas tree, filled with Tutti Frutti "fruit fairy" ornaments (\$22), sits near the window at the crossroads of Fairy Road and Sugar Way. Inside the store, velvet leopard skin and scarlet rose-shaped pillows (small \$77, large \$198) lend an aura of decadence. Luckily, Michael

Cameron Benbrook, who stars in Christmas with the Crawfords, works at Fillamento and was on hand to give advice to customers looking for camp.

The only stocking allowed to be hung by the chimney this year has to be one of their plush velvet high-button shoe designs in passionate red or shimmering silver (\$88). Michael also mischievously (\$88). Michael also mischievously pointed to what he called the "hidden pistol" in an otherwise innocent velvet flower opera purse (\$99). The little devil pops up when you turn the purse inside

out.
For those among us who insist on doing the "mirror, mirror on the wall" routine, Gallery of Jewels (2115) offers hand mirrors encrusted with gold, glass, and silver jewels (\$250). Coup de Chapeau (1906) has campy cocktail hats to punctuate that party outfit (\$75) and tams with flower toppings (\$68).

Main Line Gifts (1928), sister

pings (\$68).

Main Line Gifts (1928), sister store to the one in the Castro, has every camp queen's favorite orna-

page 27



Fillamento flourish: A worker hangs some deluxe Christmas stockings at the Fillmore Street emporium.



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Tis the season to be political

by Jim Provenzano

hat are the political aspects of holiday shopping? Well, this time of year is all about money, which is all about class, and being low class (economically) these days, here's a few options from the lower depths, just some of the ways you can re-think gift-giving to not only impress your giftee with thoughtfulness, but help the envi-ronment, worthy causes, and un-dermine corrupt corporate Kris

Kringle capitalism.

Make it yourself. Most folks would appreciate a beautiful handmade card more than a cheesy store-bought gift. I know. T've been getting away with this scam since I was five. Recycling old gift wrap from last year is cool. It's good for the environment. It also saves money. One way to save money on corny tra-ditional Christmas cards is to get on the mailing list for one of those on the mailing list for one of those Catholic charities. Just fill out a subscription form for St. Antho-ny Messenger or any other reli-gious mag. They send you all sorts of beg-athon letters, plus handy mailing labels, and best of all, conservative Christmas cards for all your stuffy relatives! And you don't pay a cent! This requires a little planning, so think about it

for next year.

Think global. **Buy local**. Despite Bill "The Weasel" Clinton's Most Favored Nation status with China, they are still torturing and killing Tibetan monks, among

other defenseless humans. Boycott Chinese products. This includes just about anything made by Disney. That's all there is to it.
Do not buy products made in China. Buying used products like clothes, CDs, cassettes and books undermines the corporate economy and helps the cool and funky shops with local entrepreneurs,

many of them queer.

Among the many stores that offer choice used goodies are Anderson Harrison Books, formerly known as Beat Books (552 Hayes Street). With a great selec-tion of art, political, feminist, Afro-political and queer books, all used, and some classy first editions, it's the perfect stop for the bibliophile on your list. Anderson Harrison Books is conveniently located in scenic Hayes Valley,

located in scenic Hayes Valley, next to many queer-owned shops full of Eastern art, wearable art, antiques and knick-knacks.

Also recyclable are CDs. Go to your favorite used CD shop, pick out something you like, record it for yourself and then give it as a gift. This way, you benefit from your own gift-giving! My favorite shops include Recycled Records on Haight, Streetlight Records on Market (next door to the Deon Haight, Streetlight Records on Market (next door to the Detour) and The Record Finder on Noe (across the street from Cafe Flore), particularly because they have a great collection, but I also like to ogle the hunky tattooed Henry Rollins look-alike.

After shopping for tunes, you might get the idea to make a music mix, something my brother always does for me. It's cool, it's



Goodies galore: Under One Roof's Paul Olsen displays the basket that was given to the customer whose purchases pushed the Market Street store over the \$3,500,00 mark on Monday, Dec. 16. Under One Roof, which boasts a staff of four and over 200 volunteers, has been raising funds for AIDS service organizations since 1990.

personalized, and it's easy to wrap. Give your **time**. Most of your Give your time. Most of your giftees probably like you, so make your gift a date. How about that Melissa Etheridge concert at the Cow Palace Dec. 17? There'll surely be plenty of presentable wimmin at that gig. Maybe you'll both snag dates for New Ear's. Or, to avoid giving money to price-gouging BASS, take your pal to a local show hosted by one of our loverly local drag chanteuses or queercore bands. Good company

is the greatest gift.

Donations. If you are someone with bucks to spare, make a donation to a worthy cause in your dear one's name. It looks re-ally good inside that handmade any good inside that handmade card, and you don't have to worry about getting the right size or color. Hip events like benefit art auctions are a great place to schmooze as well. Some of our Wen. Soline of our fave charities include ACT UP/Golden Gate, the new community center, AIDS Emergency Fund, 18th St. Services, GodFather Fund. Oh, you know the rest. Give 'til it hurts, sugar dediis and membrased in the services of the sugar deadliss and membrased in the services. daddies and mommas.

Services. What is the sound of

one gift wrapping? Completely avoiding materialism is perfect for your socialist, Buddhist, or just your socialist, Buddhist, or just plain non-goodie-oriented pals. Draw up a little contract to offer gardening or house-cleaning, medication-retrieving or catsitting. If you're wondering about a non-materialistic gift for a partner, roommate or relative, how about quitting smoking for Christmess' The gift of life is just Christmas? The gift of life is just about the best thing there is.

Gift certificates. There's

Gift certificates. There's nothing worse than getting lousy gifts, particularly at office parties. Just about the worst gift I ever received was from a mincing sweater queen who gave me a come-rag. I swear, a come-rag. Fortunately, that bitch was soon

thereafter fired, and we all know that karmic revenge is the greatest

gift of all.

When I get gift certificates I think one thing. Yum. I got just what I wanted: money, or at least money focused within the confines of one store, say, A Different Light Bookstore, or ReJuice-ination, that new stylish juice store on Castro, or our favorite tchotchke store, Under One Roof, the AIDS gift store that's been selling donated items for years now (How 'bout those trees!). Gift certificates are great because they allow the giftee to because they allow the giftee to shop for themselves, and that's perhaps the one nice thing about

perhaps the one nice thing about this cash-craven time of year. For, in the words of David Byrne, "Shopping is a feeling."

One last Christmas thought: live and let live. Christmas is about the birth of Jesus. What does that have to do with killing trees? Nothing, It's just a pagan or Nordic ritual that Christians appropriated from other cultures as they took over. Originally, the tree was decorated in the gilders or entrails of tribes' victims. I'm not sure of the facts regarding this, sure of the facts regarding this, but the point is, I gave up buying trees the day I moved out of my parents' house. I have a lovely two-foot cardboard tree that gets the message across (deposit gifts here). Another friend designs lights in a cone to make an invisi-

lights in a collector make an invisible tree. Be creative.

Don't let tired old rituals interfere with being an upstanding member of the planet earth. Stop killing trees. ▼

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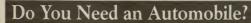
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When Santa thinks of romance

by Shan Schwartz

andy. Cologne. Candles.
Or a book. Or jewelry. Massage oil. Or even a pet. When it comes to romantic with it comes to romantic gifts, "gay giving" is not much dif-ferent from any other type of giv-ing; but for it to be romantic, people say a gift has to be just right for the person giving or receiving it.

Dave Howington, buyer at **Headlines** (at 557 Castro), said Headlines (at 557 Castro), said all different types of gifts could be romantic to different people. For some people, he said, it might be candles. For others, aromatherapy baths. All these types of items are more popular gift items this time of year, he said.

The Body Shop (506 Castro) also sells a let more bath products.

also sells a lot more bath products and massage oils this time of year, said store assistant Ernesto Jerez. He said that Lavender- and Vanil-la-scented products are especially

popular this year.

"Lavender products are supposed to be soothing," Jerez said. And Vanilla is supposedly an aphrodisiac."

These scented products are available in such forms as massage oils, shower gels, and bubble bath.

Also popular this year, Jerez said, is The Body Shop's peppermint foot lotion, which was featured in a romantic scene in the British coming-out movie Beautiful Thing.

Jerez said he had filled many requests for gift baskets with a variety of items for a couple to share. Customers even bring in their own items to be included in a basket, such as a bottle of cham-

pagne.

Many romantic gifts are prod-Many romantic gifts are products that can be used by a couple during intimate moments together. Employees at **Main Line Gifts** (516 Castro) suggest "Tub Tea," a mixed bag of herbs and aromatic products that dissolve into a bathtub that a couple could share. Candles also make good romantic gifts, one employee said.

"They provide nice mood lighting," he said. "But it all depends on who's there with you."
For those who enjoy reading, in or out of a tub full of tea, the

in or out of a tub full of tea, the right books can be wonderfully romantic. Caroline Boyden, a buyer for A Different Light bookstore (489 Castro), said a book could be a romantic gift if it vere the right type of book for the

"For me it is, because I'm a big book fiend," she said. "There are a lot of very well-put-together books that are nice to look at and read, but they also are simply nice as objects, too."

A few new books on shelves

this year might be especially appropriate for romantic gifts at Christmas:

• Between Us, edited by Kay Turner, is a selection of love letters between lesbians. The hardcover

book includes lots of pictures and collages of photos and letters.

• Male Bonding is a photography book of male couples featuring the work of many well-known

photographers.

*Living Happily Ever After profiles 30 older couples (gay, lesbian, and heterosexual) who talk about their everlasting love.

• Happily Ever After and Once Upon A Time are two new anthologies of gay and lesbian erotica, based on traditional fairy

Dogged relationship

No matter who you ask about romantic Christmas gifts, you're likely to get a different answer from everyone. Tim Thrush, a Santa Clara resident visiting the Castro last week, told the B.A.R. about the most romantic Christmas gift he ever got with a former boyfriend: a pet.

boyfriend: a pet.

"It's like gay men's children," he said. "We got ourselves a puppy. But it was a very big deal to a gay couple. It was like a whole adoption agency thing."

Thrush said he and his boyfriend studied different breeds and even consulted a professional breeder to determine what does

breeder to determine what dogs might best represent their personalities. In the end, they chose an

altites. In the end, they choose an American Eskimo dog.

"We picked the dog's name on the way home," Thrush said.

"We'd pass him back and forth, trying to pick a name based on how he felt to us."

They also spent a very large amount of time picking out dog toys, a kennel, and talking about coordinating their schedules so Jules wouldn't be alone for long

periods of time.

"For the whole year after that, our whole world revolved around him," Thrush said. "It was our child. But then [after Thrush and his boyfriend broke up], Paul got custody, so I haven't seen Jules in months!"

But even though his relation-ship came to an end, Thrush still remembers that Christmas for the romantic gift.

It seems that what makes a gift

romantic is less of what it actually is, and more of what is done with it or how much thought went into it. So choose your own romantic gifts wisely this Christmas, and the romance may happen on its own.





Fiji whiz!

by Mike Salinas

orget Hawaii until next year. It still isn't possible for us to give our loved ones that long-promised Hawaiian wedding song (plus accompanying ceremony, catering headaches, in-law meetings, and arguments over bridesperson garments) until Christmas 1997 at least.

No problem.
Gays and lesbians who are unfettered by the constraints of heterosexual tradition can opt to wait until later for the wedding and until later for the wedding and skip to the good stuff – the honeymoon – for this year's Christmas gift. For the most romantic present imaginable, a Pacific Island honeymoon that will cause your own folks to turn gangrenous with envy when they compare it with theirs in Niagara Falls. try Fiii.

Falls, try Fiji.

The Pacific island nation is probably best known to gays and lesbians as the place where San Francisco philanthropist Jim Hormel was considered – briefly as U.S. ambassador earlier this year. Hormel didn't get posted there, but that's a reflection on the Clinton Administration, not the lush and lovely country floating in the South Pacific. Fiji, despite a rarely enforced sodomy law, is as hospitable to gay tourists as any-where in the world – and a good deal more so than many places here in the United States.

By far, the most gay-friendly space in Fiji is the "Man Friday Resort," which caters as much to a completely gay/lesbian clientele as is legally possible. Overseen by the boundless energy and Australian goodwill of general manager David Middlemiss, Man Friday provides the kind of getaway most people only imagine. Couples are bunked in fully modern *bure* bungalows overlooking a seemingly endless Pacific Ocean lapping at coral reefs and sandy beaches and

lovingly looked over by a thoughtful staff.

Meals are served in the central lodge, which is also a convenient place to meet the other new arrivals and talk about how beautiful everything is, about the liber-ating lack of news from home (which lies on the other side of the international dateline and is already, therefore, beyond help), and about the amazing hibiscus blooms the size of Kate Moss that appear in new colors every day on the pillows and the backs of the urinals.



Resort recreation in Fiji

Weather to love

Because Fiji lies below the equator, its seasons are the opposite of ours, but because of its tropical setting the weather never gets cold. Man Friday, which is sit-uated on the southern "Coral Coast," gets cooling breezes dur-ing the hottest months, so it doesn't get too hot or humid. The resort's beach is protected from predatory sea creatures by its own barrier reef, which also helps to

keep the water at land's edge about the same temperature as the average swimming pool.

And for those who prefer pools, there's one of those, too. In keeping with the Robinson Crusel/Man Firlday motif it is foot. see/Man Friday motif, it is foot-shaped, down to the toes. ("Is the pool very deep?" "No, it's only a foot," is a common wisecrack among those people who lounge about it every day, usually with fresh cocktails in their hands and a layer of sunscreen on their

The poolside bar uses the local fruits – without the gold-medal-winning local Fiji Rum, upon request, for non-drinkers – to create drinks that, with the exchange rate, cost about the same as Margaritas at airport bars, but are a lot better.

It is the rare traveler who wants nothing more than sun and sea and salt air for a full week, so Man Friday has scoured the sur-rounding area for entertaining ex-cursions. Side trips include visits to a rainforest waterfall, to a vil-lage where the women carry on a pottery-making tradition vastly different from that of any other country, and to an adjacent island for some eye-popping snorkeling. Some weekend nights, if it rains, groups will pile into the distinc-tive Man Friday minibus and careen over the mountain roads into the nearest town with a gay bar, Suva. The bus also makes a trip into Suva for shopping at least once a week – these are gay tourists, after all.

After the trips, people return to the pool for more Mai Tais and to watch staff members turn (It's a fast and fascinating procedure, but be prepared for inspectors at the American border to spend some time deciding whether a banana leaf hat is permissible back in this country.)
Fun as the banana fronds are,

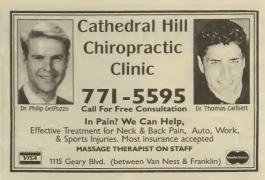
the most famous of Fiji's many traditions involves a different na-tive plant: Kava. Said to be rich in mind-altering properties – it is an ingredient in the so-called "herbal ecstasy" sold in San Francisco shops, in fact – the root is dried, pounded into powder, mixed with water, and drunk from ceremonial bowls; in the old days virgins used to chew Kava into mush, but that was given up, perhaps because virgins are harder to find than they used to be, even in Fiji.

Another, even more important Fiji custom is the rationwide

tant, Fiji custom is the nationwide habit of smiling. To visit a country where every stranger begins every exchange with a huge smile is, in its way, even more evidence of paradise than the banana trees, paradise than the bahana trees, the coral reefs, or the parrot-blue sky. Whatever their age or gender, it seems impossible for Fijians not to smile at strangers who cross their paths. Maybe it's all the

To get to this land of beauty, wonder, and calm, San Franciscans must go through the bustle of LAX, unfortunately, where Air Pacific connects to Fiji's capital, Nadi, three times a week. A pack-

page 20 ▶





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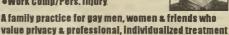
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Dreaming of a black Christmas

by Mike Salinas

verybody looks good in a tux. Even straight guys know that. What they don't know is how many of them would also look great in Chanel's basic black dress. It must be the color.

Black may be an absence of color to ocular scientists, but in this community it is the universal color. Or as the perspicacious salesclerk Tony said in the Castro store Citizen, "Black is this year's ... black."

... black."
Because of the many wonderful properties of black – it goes with anything, it's timeless, and it is a wonderful antidote to Early American anything – it has earned its stature as one of the four basic gift groups of gay life.

A brief shopping tour of the

A brief shopping tour of the Castro provides plenty of confirmation that black is still the color of a true love's gift in 1996. From clothing to furnishings to food – yup, food – black items are being snapped up by discerning gay gift-givers in the kind of numbers that make other colors, well, pale in comparison.

Black leather is a timeless favorite - it's even Santa's accessory of choice. There is so much that can be done with it that entire stores are devoted to it. (Also stores are devoted to it. (Also some entire lives, but that's a dif-ferent story.) Among the places where shoppers can find herds of slaughtered cows fashioned into vests, pants, cockrings, and other ephemera are **The Leather Zone**, at 3252 Market; **Worn Out West**,

Leather, at 2199 Market.

Some other black clothing that's a little lighter-weight, if no less sexy, is also available at dozens of area stores. In . Jean . ious, at or area stores. In Jean 1015, at 432 Castro Street, has black-on-black pailletted retro shirts for \$69.99; football shorts with chrome closures for \$36.99; one glitter vinvl sleeveless t-shirt with a front zipper marked down from \$43 to \$12.99 (so hurry!); and, in the not-quite-clothing category, rubber backpacks – with Wyoming license plates attached - for \$29.99

All American Boy, across the street at 463 Castro, offers black long johns and thermal T-shirts for \$15 each; mesh baseball caps (more silver than black, but unde niably cool in that basic black wa nonetheless) for \$25; and silk

bathrobes for \$75. Weaver's World at 587 Castro has black patent leather jackets in women's sizes for \$37; faux snakeskin versions that are even nicer, for only \$30; and butch-as-nails men's corduroy bomber iackets for \$45

Rolo Basics at 450 Castro ighs in with black athletic shirts weighs in with Oral adments after shirts with World War II gunnery art insignias for \$18; faux fur hats for \$39 and caps for \$38; and some cool retro '60s shirts for \$49.

Citizen at 536 Castro has marked down its terrific Joe Boxer

marked down its terrine foe Boxer black short pants from \$42 to \$20, and has porkpie hats to acces-sorize the look for only \$28. It also has black-and-white Holstein print slippers for \$28 and faux al-

ligator flasks for \$35, just to complete a truly eye-catching ensemble.

Black is also the color of choice for many home furnishing gifts, from the great \$24 three-candle candelabra with a slightly art moderne feel at **Only on Castro** (518A Castro) to the recycled rub-ber placemats with star and crescent moon cut-out designs next door at Main Line Gifts (516 Castro) for \$5.95 each. The matching star-shaped coasters are even better at \$2.50 each. Main Line also has a three-panel screen/room divider with 15 spaces for 8-by-10 photos for \$245, and a nifty ceramic coffee pot in the shape of an old phone

The neighborhood's undisputed champ of black items is **Cliff's Variety** at 479 Castro, fully stocked with black cooking utensils, garbage cans, contac paper, storage units, shelves, garment bags, bathroom accessories, lamps, phones, candles and holders, pens, and paint. Plus black pepper mills and Black and Deck-

pepper limis and black and beeker er powertools. Next door, at the other **Cliff's Variety** at 471 Castro, the selec-tion is less daunting but no less inviting. Among the treasures is a mango wood box with a ham-mand tin july for nolly \$30, as mered tin inlay for only \$30, as well as black leather boxes in the \$35-40 range.

For a more personal gift, check out the **Skin Zone** at 573 Castro, where they even offer a blackberry cologne (unisex, very clean, and non-offensive, \$17) and sevand black liquid soaps (\$3-9), plus a black hand soap dish and matching thumb hooks for towels (\$16 and \$5, respectively).

For the person on your list who would rather drink blackber-ry than wear it, bottles of Black ry than wear it, bottles of Black Haus blackberry schnapps are available for \$17.49 at Friendly Spirits at 572 Castro. They also suggest so-called Black Whiskey, a ten-year-old single malt from the Black Hills of Scotland, for \$25.99, and a black Muscat distil-late (an American grappa, really) with the alluring name of "Spirit

late (an American grappa, really) with the alluring name of "Spirit of Elysium," for \$26.75.

Want a snack with that whiskey? Hennessey's Market at 3600 16th Street (at Market) has just the thing; basic black caviar. The Sevruga Malossol is only \$69.95 for four ounces—that's a quarter pound after alll only \$69.95 for four ounces – that's a quarter pound, after all! – and the Beluga Malossol is a little steeper at \$89.95 for two ounces. Then, of course, there's Imperial Caspian Sea caviar for \$54 for 30 grams. Which is about one ounce plus 14 tiny black eggs.

And what's a feast without some music? Nothing goes with caviar better than beautiful music, the kind that lives on classic black

the kind that lives on classic black vinyl LPs. **Medium Rare Records** at 2310 Market has what you're looking for, from Ethel Watters in Blackbirds of 1929

(\$9.99) to Judy Garland singing the Black Bottom in A Star is Born (\$7.99). The store has plenty of compact disks, too, including the timeless Peggy Lee singing "Bye, Bye Blackbird" (on Why Don't You

Bye Blackbird" (on Why Don't You Do Right?, for \$14.99).
For black stocking stuffers, check out the selection in Uncle Mame (2193 Market), where you can get Felix the Cat toys in virtually any size (\$3.50-24.99) plus an 8 Ball mystical soothsaying tchotchke – in Spanish – for \$25.95, and boxing glove oven mitts for \$9.99. There's also a machine to take four black-and-white photos of yourself (in the white photos of yourself (in the perfect dimensions for a Christ-

mas stocking) for three bucks.

More stocking stuffers abound
at Does Your Father Know? (548 Castro), including "Be Safe" black whistles for \$3.95 and Zippo lighters with pink triangles for

There's one other way to have a merry black Christmas this year: by making donations to some important organizations in the area, including Black and White Men Together (2261 Market; 826-2968); The Brothers Network (973 Market; 356-8140); The Black Women's Health Project (2370 Grande Vista Place in Oakland; 510/533-6923); and The Black Coalition on AIDS (1042 Divisadero; 346-2364). ▼

Fiii whiz!

◄ page 19

age price of \$1098 (per person, double occupancy) includes the airfare from Los Angeles plus lodging and breakfasts for a week. The other meals, many featuring the terrific local seafood, run about \$20-30 extra per day, in

American money.

Man Friday may not be for everyone; some people prefer snow and crowds and haute culture to the joys that can be found on Fiji. But for a perfect romantic present that will make any gay couple forget for a while that they can't get a marriage license, nothing beats a good honeymoon on the Coral Coast. ▼

For more information on Man Friday, call Men on Vacation, a San Diego-based travel company specializing in satisfying gay and lesbian travelers, at (800) 959-4636.

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Tra la la la la-latex!

by Mr. Marcus

ho could have imagined ho could have imagined the rubbery composition of decades-old scubasize to become a fashion statement, the latest rage for the fetishoriented kink communities of our subculture, and the ultimate basic black Christmas gift of 1996?

At major leather/SM gatherings, you can spot any number of men and women in latex gear that not only bespeaks a fashion state-

not only bespeaks a fashion state-ment, but like leather, is considered *de rigeur* for any out and about person who engages in the nightlife and hedonistic opportu-nities that abound in most major urban settings these days.

urban settings these days.
So while you're shopping around this holiday season for around this holiday season for some special man or woman who has everything, you might want to consider a latex item. Or treat yourself to a refreshing new image. (Don't forget to include a can of talcum powder: latex has a tendency to slither right on with just a few squeezes. And of course, it slithers off just as easily when you're getting down to the nitty gritty and your partner can't wait to just "peel" you!)

No one in my research for this article could pinpoint exactly when latex wear began to make a very big impression on the tastes of both men and women. Most agree that the phenomenon got a big start in leather/SM circles in London in the mid-80s. Since that time, latex has become big business.

time, latex has become big busi-

time, latex has become big business.

Picking up on the economic advantages of providing what customers want, there's not a leather store in the world, if they're out for business, that doesn't have at least a decent line of latex wear on their racks. A casual foray through the pages of the major leather companies around the world shows that whatever can be made of fabric or leather can also be made of latex. A non-scientific survey of stores in Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco yields the fact that most stores with a big variety of latex wear are with a big variety of latex wear are hard-pressed to keep up with de-

Designers are having a field day with letting their imaginations go wild with this material. In the Mister S of San Francisco cat-alog, there are at least a dozen alog, there are at least a dozen pages of every imaginable item you could want, from daringly crafted jock-type briefs to body suits, some with hoods (and some worn with a simple ball-bearing necklace), from head gear to pants in every style (zinpers or but

in every style (zippers or but-tons?) to rubber boots. Realistically, unlike leather gear, latex is not for everyone. Slim builds and body builders who aren't overly developed make the best statement for this fashion rage. Still, clever designers have managed to make outfits for al-

most anyone.

The original jet black ensembles, while still very popular, have given way to shorts, tank tops, and full-body suits in a wild pastiche of almost neon-like and vibrant colors. Notably, International Mr. Leather '88 "Iron" Mike Pereyra was the subject of a recent color layout by popular photographer Jim French, in a predominantly black latex body suit with yellow streaks on the fitted hood, resemstream on the intent hood, resembling the Spider Man comic strip character. And what is sometimes disparagingly referred to as the "new guard" (i.e., the younger



Latex lovelies cavort in their differently styled neck entry suits.

publisher, but hasn't enjoyed

publisher, but hasn't enjoyed widespread distribution to date.

Thank the lucky stars that latex didn't make a big splashy faddy entry into our world. It just keeps getting subtly more and more popular. And if other gay trend-

popular. And if other gay trend-setting successes are any indica-tion, you can expect latex to be-come almost overbearingly popu-lar with the heterosexual commu-nity, oh ...say around 1999 or be-yond. Until then, make your life more interesting and snappy – get some latex, and/or make sure Santa leaves some under the tree

Santa leaves some under the tree

of someone you love.

generation) have more often than included latex in their wardrobe inventory.

Rubber bands

Rubber bands
So just what is it about latex that has made such an impact? Like its cousin leather, it is not cheap. Regional weather trends preclude the wearing of latex year round. I've found it to be uncomfortable in extreme heat or extreme cold. It makes you sweat, too, and that is probably one of the main factors that places it with ease into leather/SM circles. At any number of disco events, voi"! any number of disco events, you'll be able to spot at least a handful of men and women whirling in utter abandon garbed in their latex of choice. Designers have gone ballistic with some of their gone ballistic with some of their imaginative and sexy designs. Every bulge shows, making latex as alluring as a jockstrap or a bra—and when you get right down to it, you may dress to please yourself, but if you look at it realistically, you're dressing to attract that foxy person that you consider a "10."

By now latex lovers and those

By now latex lovers and those who admire them have formed who admire them have formed fraternal organizations in major cities (the Rubber Club in London boasts the biggest membership roster, with Amsterdam closing in rapidly), including San Francisco's Rubber Corps, who meet regularly and have play parties for those into the scene. Locally, former San Francisco resident John Ferrari was a proponent of latex wear long before a lot of other people here picked up on it. As a contestant in the Russian River Leather Daddy contest in the late 80s, his onstage appearances dur-80s, his onstage appearances during competitions included at least one piece of latex.

There's even a major competition usually held in Boston (it was held in Chicago in 1996) to name Mr. Vulcan Rubber, and there are always plenty of contestants. The aforementioned John Ferrari was way ahead of his contemporaries when he was chosen the first-ever

Mr. Vulcan Rubber.

There are also a handful of zines for latex lovers with the latest news, gossip, and information on latex stores, artisans, parties, fundaries. on latex stores, artisans, parties, fundraisers, and discussion groups. Actually, the first major magazine to come out on the subject was first published in San Francisco by Lily Braindrop, It was called *Living in Latex* and was a glossy mostly black-and-white publication that came out sporadically ...or whenever Lily wasn't partying. I've learned the magazine is being produced by a new

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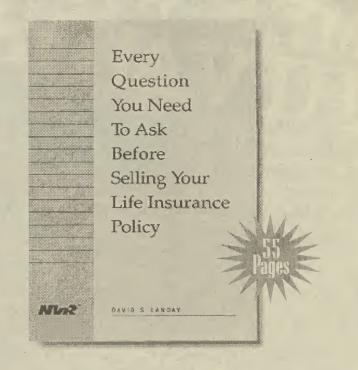
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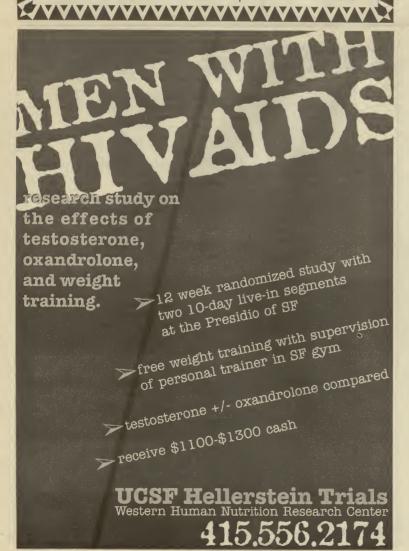
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Toeing the line: Bay Area Jews will take over the production line at Project Open Hand on Christmas Day.

Gay Bay Area Jews to lend a hand on Xmas

by Gregory Fleischer

hile many Bay Area residents are occupied with Yuletide festivities, volunteers from the Jewish commu-nity will be busy delivering meals for Project Open Hand on Christ-

for Project Open Hand on Christ-mas Day.
"We absolutely could not do it without them," Jennie Watson, Communications Director of Project Open Hand said of Sha'ar Zahav's involvement. "They com-pletely take over. They do everything from chopping vegetables to preparing the meals, to packaging and delivery."

This holiday season Congrega-tion Sha'ar Zahav, the AIDS Pro-ject of Jewish Family and Children's Services, and 150 Bay Area volunteers from the community at large will be joining forces with Project Open Hand in the prepa-ration and delivery of 1,500 hot

meals on Christmas Day.

"In the battle against AIDS there is a sense of helplessness, and this is something we all can

of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav since 1990, told the Bay Area Reporter. Howard has served as the coordinator of Project Open Hand's Christmas meal program for the past three years. "It is for the past three years. "It is something very personal for me ...a chance to make a difference."

The B.A.R. has obtained exclusive access to the Christmas dinner

menu, which consists of Cornish game hen with seasoned fruit, fresh broccoli, wild and brown rice, and for dessert, a "chocolate surprise." Project Open Hand caters to special dietary needs by preparing meals for up to 16 various types of specialty diets.

At least 150 volunteers are needed to perform this mitzvah for Project Open Hand's clients throughout the holidays. If you are interested in volunteering in San Francisco during the week of Christmas, contact Marilyn of Project Open Hand at (415) 226-2420. For the East Bay, call Pat (510) 596-8200.

LGADDA co-hosting Kwanzaa celebration

by Cynthia Laird

he spiritual, festive, and joy-ous African-American celeous African-American celebration known as Kwanzaa will be observed at the San Francisco Main Library with a celebration Thursday, December 26. The event is being presented by Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action (LGAD-DA) in seccitation with the li-DA) in association with the library's African-American and Gay and Lesbian Centers.

Gay and Lesbian Centers.
This is the fifth year that
LGADDA has participated in
Kwanzaa festivities, said Ron Hypolite, the group's chair.
Developed and initiated 30
years ago by Dr. Maulana Ron
Karenga, Kwanzaa is an AfricanAmerican celebration of the oneness and goodness of life that has ness and goodness of life that has grown in popularity across the country and internationally.

Kwanzaa is observed for a veek beginning December 26. It is centered around seven principles (Nguzo Saba), with emphasis on unity and rededication to manifesting those principles in

manifesting those principles in daily life. Hypolite said he's pleased to have the library's co-sponsorship on the 30th anniversary of Kwan-

zaa's inception.
"I think it's a wonderful opportunity for African-American gays and lesbians to reach out to the wider African-American community and celebrate our com-mon heritage," said Hypolite. The celebration will feature ex-

hibits and speakers. Serving as MC of the event will be Brian Freeman of the famed Pomo-Afro-Homo, a three-man African-American gay performance group that used to perform regularly at Josie's Juice Joint and Cabaret.

page 27 ▶

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the or the protection of the photo submitted in the person's name on the inside of the or the protection of the protect

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

John R. Lindy II



Two years – Bah, humbug! Happy Christ-mas, Johnny... I love you and

Felix Parroquin June 8, 1965 - Dec. 24, 1995

It is hard to believe that it has been one year since Felix passed away after a long and valiant struggle against AIDS. Felix had the great gift of knowing how to enjoy life fully, how to make friends by being polite, elegant, loving and lovable. Before he became ill, he en



joyed so many things. Traveling, dancing and just being with his friends were his fa-vorites. It was his insatiable joy for life and his skill for living in the present that made him such

that made him such a remarkable person.

The first months after his death were very difficult for me. Now, on the first anniversary of his passing away, I would like to express my deep appreciation to all those who helped us in the agonizing period before this event. I especially wish to thank the doctors and staff at SF General, the caring workers of Visiting Nurses and the Shanti volunteers, and his loving friends. Thank you all so much.

We will all miss Felix's boyish charm and sweetness. Please remember him with me on December 24. —Love, Mirek

Russell Rich Dec. 31, 1934 - Dec. 7, 1996



the earliest female illusionists (A.D.). Russell passed in his sleep. Sweet dreams, Grandma Russell. Donations in his name may be sent to the SF AIDS

Richard C. Sword Oct. 11, 1954 - Aug. 1, 1996



wish.

Born in Germany and raised in and about Phoenix, Ariz., Rick moved to the Bay Area in 1978. He lived in wears until he

to the Haight for man years until he moved to Sausalito in January 1995.
Rick worked as a speech pathologist for the San Francisco Unified School District for 16 years. He was highly regarded by his peers, the children he worked with, and their parents. Rick was very involved with the GSGRA, at one time vice president of the Bay Area chapter. In addition, he was very skilled in remodeling interior spaces with a special bent for original and specialized faux finishes.

special bent for original and specialized faux finishes.

We all certainly missed Rick's rapier wit and seemingly endless and very unique views on the human condition. He was a loving son, that charming stranger, and the best of friends.

Special thanks and acknowledgment to Michael. His incredible strength, kindness and understanding helped all of us, Rick's friends and family, through the most difficult of times. Michael reminded me of the one thing that Rick minded me of the one thing that Rick would have wanted included in his an-nouncement and so be it... Rick Sword Dead, you know!

AIDS services debated at supes meeting

by Cynthia Laird

mproving the quality of AIDS care in San Francisco was the focus of a Board of Supervisors' committee meeting held in the Castro Thursday, December 12. Topics ranged from condom distribution in gay bars to criticism of programs run by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation

Supervisor Tom Ammiano, who chaired the meeting, stressed that more public forums on the subject would be held. Supervisor Leslie Katz emphasized her commitment to start widespread con-dom distribution and said the De-partment of Public Health (DPH) has been asked to develop a plan for such a program.

"I'm also awaiting the results from Stop AIDS Project regarding the so-called female condom to see about distributing those as well," Katz said.

well, Katz said.
She was referring to Stop AIDS
Project's recent announcement of
a citywide survey of attitudes to
determine how men feel about
using the Reality internal condom, by giving 1,000 of the devices away.

vices away.

Activist Michael Petrelis, one of the most vocal advocates of in-ternal condoms, was appreciative ternal condoms, was appreciative of the survey now underway in the city, but also said penile con-doms should be widely distrib-uted by the health department. Katz asked the DPH to put to-

gether a widespread condom dis-tribution plan in October. Dr. Sandra Hernandez, health director, responded by stating the AIDS Office was awarded \$15,000 for condom distribution and public education that will increase awareness and use of condoms in gay-identified bars. The program will serve over 30,000 clients and is scheduled to start in January,

Hernandez said in a letter to Katz.
"We sent a letter reiterating our concerns about the lack of condoms during the other 51 weeks of the year," Katz said, noting that Ammiano and Supervisor Susan Leal also signed the letter. "While the \$15,000 recently awarded for condom distribution and public education is a step in the right direction, we wonder whether this is sufficient for a widespread condom distribution

'We can do better'

Dr. Mitch Katz, director of the AIDS Office, told the audience that the office has purchased anal condoms that are available at all

of the health department's clinics.
"The \$15,000 was only for condom distribution in bars and sex clubs," Mitch Katz said. "We also give out condoms when we do health education and outreach activities. We can do a better job. There's more to be done.'

Another issue discussed at the meeting was the SFAF. Paul Wisotzky, a gay man living with AIDS, was just elected chair of the agency's 19-member board of directors.

'We take seriously our mission," Wisotzky said before briefly discussing how protease in-

discussing how protease inhibitors have become "promising new treatments" for many people.

He said that last year the SFAF board came up with four principles regarding people with AIDS, and those are hope, quality of life, dignity, and choice.

"All people with HIV who benefit from these drugs should have

efit from these drugs should have access," said Wisotzky. "Like any treatment, they do not work for

everyone."

Ron Baker, director of treatment and advocacy at the SFAF and a person living with HIV, also

top priority at the foundation.
Stephanie Batey, a field representative for the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Local 790, was critical of SFAF, saying too much money is spent on the salaries of top administra-tors and fundraising. SEIU will enter contract negotiations with SFAF in the first few months of

Batey said that the founda-tion's current annual budget is \$17 million. The largest budget is \$4.26 million for development, Batey said, adding that the budget for client services is \$3.9 million. Lance Henderson, deputy di-

rector of finance and administration for the SFAF, told the B.A.R. tion for the SFAF, told the B.A.K. that Batey suggested the foundation spends over one-third in fundraising, which is not accurate. Henderson said that an independent audit of SFAF financial records for the year ended June 30, 1996 shows that only 20.6 percent of the budget was spent on fundraising. Additionally, the SFAF's budget is \$16 million. "We feel our fundraising is

SFAF's budget is \$16 million.

"We feel our fundraising is very competitive, considering that three-quarters of our budget is raised privately," Henderson said. "What's important when you compare agencies is that most are largely government-funded."

The annual AIDS Walk is sponsored by the SFAF. Henderson said the foundation absorbs all of the overhead for the event,

all of the overhead for the event, then gives away \$1 million in grants to various agencies.

Big money

Batey also said that in 1995, the top five management salaries at the SFAF totaled \$595,000.

Jeff DeLucio-Brock, media relations associate for the foundation, told the *B.A.R.* that in 1995,

next page

AIDS vaccine effort boosted

r. David Baltimore has been named to chair the National Institutes of Health's AIDS Vaccine Research Committee, a newly created national research effort to find a preventative vaccine for HIV. The announcement was made Thursday, December 12 at a meeting of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director's Advisory Council.

winning virologist who discovered reverse transriptase, a key process in the reproductive cycle of retroviruses such as HIV. He is affiliated with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he will remain in addition to assuming his new duties.

The committee and appointment grew out of recommenda-tions made in March 1996 by the "Levine Committee," which con-ducted the first systematic review of all government-funded AIDS ing vaccine efforts in the Office of AIDS Research under the guidance and oversight of nongovernment scientists.

Ernest Hopkins, director of

research and treatment at the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA), said that vac-AIDS (NAPWA), said that vac-cine development was one of the group's "core objectives in 1997." He said Baltimore's appointment is an indication of how serious the administration is in "moving forward aggressively on the

issue."

Mark Harrington, policy director with the Treatment Action Group (TAG), called Baltimore's appointment "a big shot in the arm for AIDS vaccine research....It shows that the NIH recognizes that past approaches have failed and new leadership is necessary to invigorate our search

essary to invigorate our search for an effective AIDS vaccine." Gary Rose, treatment lobbyist with the AIDS Action Council, believes that Baltimore's stature will help enormously. "There

aren't many Nobel Prize-winners that want to get involved in AIDS research," he observed.

"They needed a first-rate scientific mind," Rose said, someone with "knowledge of immunology and knowledge of HIV, which [Baltimore] has. Then they needed someone who can look with a fresh eye at the structure of implementation of ideas.

resh eye at the structure of im-plementation of ideas.
"I don't know of anybody who is not impressed by him. He can move and shake on the inside of NIH, which is what we need."

Clinton Strategy

President Clinton's remarks at the white House Conference on HIV and AIDS (1996, when it should read 1995), the "Strategy" is a de-cidedly inferior document. The 1991 report offered 30 de-

The 1991 report oftered 30 detailed recommendations for policy changes, many of them bold challenges to the status quo. The "strategy" retreats from many of those recommendations.

Most glaring is the issue of needle exchange programs to stem new infections among IV drug users. In the five years be-tween the two studies, HIV trans-mission through IV drug use has swelled to represent the route of more than half of all new infec-tions. The 1991 report called for tions. The 1991 report called for repeal of laws that prohibit needle exchange programs. "Strategy" simply noted that "current Federal law restricts the use of Federal funds for syringe exchange programs," but offered no call to change that law, despite the strong recommendation of the Advisory Council to do so.

Advisory Council to do so.

"And once again," said Lubinski, "the Clinton administration skirts support for the most com-pelling HIV prevention strategy we have, syringe exchange pro-grams for intravenous drug ad-dicts."

Way off baseline

The Advisory Council had been given advanced copies of the "Strategy" and vigorously discussed it at their meeting.

Bob Hattoy, a member of the administration who spoke on AIDS at the 1992 Democratic National Convention

AIDs at the 1992 Democratic National Convention, challenged Fleming's characterization of the "Strategy." "There are no first steps at this stage in the epidemic," he said. "People with AIDS in America don't give a damn whether or not it's our first step or our first document, they care about what is being done or not about what is being done or not being done." Chairman Scott Hitt proposed

a motion commending the work done, but not necessarily the substance of the report. One member suggested changing the language of the motion to call it a "baseline" report. Hitt was uncomfort-

able with that word because it "makes it sound like they finally got around to it after four years."

Chicago attorney Robert Fogel suggested they "applaud the president for taking this great small

Ben Schatz, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, noted that "for political reasons" many of the council's recommendations, such as sup-

recommendations, such as sup-port for needle exchange, were not included in the "Strategy," He expressed the view that maybe their judgment was cloud-ed. "Perhaps I, or maybe we, have gotten a bit comfortable." Schatz's voice took on a theatrically smarmy tone as he continued, "We know each other, we like "We know each other, we like Patsy, we like her staff, we're all friends." The council responded with nervous laughter in recogni-tion of that closeness.

"But," Schatz said, "that is re-

ally not what this is about.

"If we are looking at an epidemic that is being spread by in-jection drug use, and that is not being addressed in this document, then it is hard to commend work that is not courageous. It has got so much missing that I don't know if I can commend

Council bluffs

Hattoy was blunt in listing those things not included in the "Strategy."
"The press and the communi-

"The press and the community is going to rip our faces off on everything from needle exchange, to medical use of marijuana, to the welfare bill, to prison populations," he predicted. "None of that is in there. This is unacceptable."

He explained that "only through crisis does action take place at this White House. ... I want them to be somewhat in a panic that certain members, or a majority of members, or every-body on this commission isn't completely happy with what they are putting forward as a strategy. ... There has to be a crisis over this document."

this document."
Mike Isbell, executive director
of the Gay Men's Health Crisis
(GMHC) in New York, was less
passionate, but no less withering
in his critique. "What is missing
is going to keep the president

from meeting his objectives. We are all inspired by the goal that we hope to have no new infections. But no one thinks we can get there without a major change in policy on needle exchange." Hattoy concurred, "It doesn't serve the president well to sign off

on a document or commend a document that doesn't do the job."

Steve Michael with ACT UP/Washington was sitting in the audience. He burst out, "The reality is that you don't have the guts and courage to talk about needle exchange in a real and substantive way. You don't have the guts to talk about a cure in a real and substantive way." He compared the document to the 1991 report from the National Commission on AIDS, and said, "We have gone backwards in the Steve Michael with ACT "We have gone backwards in the last four years."

Avoidance and lies

Fleming cautioned that the

council should consider the impact it would have on the president if they don't support the

"Strategy."

By next morning, the impassioned anguish of the council had abated, and they voted 26 to 1, with Hattoy abstaining. Its reso lution "commends" the President and ONAP "for demonstrating leadership" in developing the toothless document. It fell into

toothless document. It fell into line by not directly mentioning needle exchange. Somehow in all seriousness and with a straight face it closed by saying: "The council intends to continue to ensure that all crucial issues are dealt with and to ensure that the actions of relevant Federal Agencies are consistent with the National AIDS Strategy and with the recommendations of this council."

It is unclear how they intend

to accomplish those ends as they have no independent power other than that of moral persuasion, a

commodity they seemed incapable of mustering when it might have mattered.

Some members of the council some memoers of the council have argued that they must maintain public support of the President's "Strategy" in order to maintain access to "give him hell" in private. But if the meeting Fleming and Hitt had with the President to deliver the "Strategy" is any indication, then the domi-

is any indication, then the domi-nant characteristic of those pri-vate sessions is avoidance. Fleming told the President that the "Strategy" "incorporates all of the council's recommendations" and that the body com-mended it "unanimously," she re-ported to the council after the meeting on the 17th. The room reacted nervously to her baldfaced lies.

"I just want you to know that even though he [Clinton] didn't come outside and speak with Scott and me to the media," said Fleming, "he is fully supportive of it."

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GAY OWNED AND OPERATED

AIDS services

previous page

the top five management salaries totaled \$472,313. Those figures were from the foundation's Form

990, he said.
Finally, Batey said the number of clients served by the SFAF has remained steady at about 2,824. DeLucio-Brock and Henderson agreed with that statement, but said Batey did not mention the many others who use the foundation's hotline and other services.
"The number of clients re-

mains the same, but the intensity and needs of our clients is growing. There's a three-fold increase in the foundation's women and children program and increases in housing subsidies," DeLuciohousing subsidies," DeLucio-Brock said. Henderson added that if all the

Finderson added that it all the SFAF programs were included—prevention and treatment education, advocacy, and direct client services—the number of people served is 129,000. ▼

Holiday on ice

by Jim Provenzano

as hoping to create a nonholiday environment for as long as possible, but there are too many things to be thankful for here on the jock beat, so here they are. Thanks to ace mountain biker **Missy Giove** for becoming the World Cup downhill Cham-pion. Thanks to **Volvo** for spon-soring her. Thanks to **Reebok** for putting her in a fun commercial. She's an out, dread-locked, fearless dyke, according to a gay mag-azine that will not be named since it has seen fit to sell ad space since it has seen ht to sell ad space to more evil cigarette manufac-turers. Shame on you, Sarah! Thanks to U.S. Olympic diver David Pichler for coming out, if

inadvertently. ranked sixth Atlanta, in he's Num ber One for us. In strange case of repeated lives, Pichler, another handsome

gay diver, Greg Louganis, was reported to have a re-

straining order against his **boyfriend**. Pichler denied such unpleasantness, calling his boyfriend "the most wonderful person I know." So not only did an Olympian get to come out, but he has a nice boyfriend too. Louganis popped into San Francisco to help out World AIDS

Money.

For those

with HIV,

Money

is Time.

Day by being the celeb-in-residence at Shop For Life, a **Nord-strom** event. No word yet on that movie-for-TV about the diver, removie-for-TV about the diver, reportedly starring Saved by the Bell hunk Mario Lopez. I opez, I recently discovered while perusing a teen magazine (really, I just buy them for the articles), was a state champion wrestler. I'd like to grapple him any day. Thanks to actor Jeremy Pivin (Spence on The Ellen DeGeneres The Closet Case Show) for appearing on the TV show Extreme Comedy in a TV show Extreme Comedy in a funny and sexy sketch on Sumo Wrestling! Pivin bared his muscled hairy chest, squatted and tus-sled with a few Wall-O-Men, exbouncing around the les-bian celebrity dating pool. This was in-between selling that March On Wash-ington, cradia ington credit card, which made me final-ly succumb under the **Sports**

ly succumb under the weight of all those gay catalogs to realize that, yes, I am a target market. Figure skater Rudy Galindo overcame the multiple family losses and personal problems to continue skating and smiling. Carl Lewis continues to pose for racy ads showing off his great body.

Speaking of closet cases, what's going on with bas-ketball

shows him up as a bit of a cad for describing his brief fling with Madonna in de-tail, but shows that he

still has to prove him-self heterosexually speaking, despite all those tattoos, pierc-ings, dye jobs and heels, and that smooch with Ru-

Paul on her VHI show. Well, we've got news for you, Dennis. Having sex with Madonna doesn't prove anything. Millions of gay men would gladly be fucked by Madonna, including me, and that doesn't make us straight.

could get more protein from chewing on a Shaq Coq, which, while high in sodium, is also high

Self-promotion dept.

If you're still looking for that perfect gay gift, look no further than the plethora of gay fiction anthologies currently available at your favorite bookstore. Actually, Best American Gay Fiction 1996 is available in every airport, too, so you can pick one up on the way to whatever culturally barren



Pivin's jokes. The sequence closed with Pivin lying on the mat, sweaty, exhausted, and nearly nude. Anyone who taped this episode wins high marks in my department. Sometimes-dyke Sandra Bernhard also did some whitewater rafting, but was nei-ther funny nor athletic.

Martina Navratilova contin-

ued to flutter gossip tongues by

star hunk Christian Laetner? Those hand-holdleast according to publicists, but he's still playing basketball, and still the same guy, right? At least Dennis Rodman,

while retaining his hetero stance, has done more for the cause of drag than other pro basketball players. His confessional tattletale autobiography, while less than a literary tome, not only with basketball, thanks to Shaquille O'Neal for marketing his image, signature, and what I can only surmise must be his penis length in the production of a new candy bar, Mr. Big. "Meet Shaq," the label says, along with "Win Shaq Stuff." The ingredients of this phallic confection include chocolate liquor, it says on the ingredients. This "Shaq Snaq" is made in Canada; so much for supporting American laborers, basketball. thanks supporting American laborers, Mister Big Shot. Amazing that they get it past the borders. With 70 milligrams of sodium, 13 grams of fat, and 8 percent of your daily requirement of miner-als, it's almost nutritious! I do think, however, that consumers

heading for the horrordays. Other fine anthologies are Happily Ever After (erotic fairy tales), and Swords of the Rainbow (queer sci fi). Oh, did I mention that I have stories in each of these? I might as well, since this publication's re-viewer has yet to bother with anything other than trashy dyke de-tective tales.

As for athletic tomes, freshly di-

vorced **Bob Paris** has another fitness book out, and *Combat Sports* in the Ancient World is perfect for your academic/athlete on your list. If your giftee is athletically inclined, but illiterate, I recommend a freshly used jockstrap. ▼

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CBC case will stay in Alameda County

by Cynthia Laird

he defendants in the Cannabis Buyers Club (CBC) case lost their bid to move their forthcoming trial from Alameda County to San Francisco in a change of venue hearing held Tuesday, December 17 in Oakland

Alameda Superior Court Judge Larry Goodman ruled that the six defendants did not establish that Alameda County jurors would be less sympathetic than their San Francisco counterparts. The de-fendants face felony charges of conspiracy to possess, cultivate, transport, and sell marijuana, possession of marijuana for sale, and sale or transportation of mar-

"The charade continues," CBC founder Dennis Peron told the

B.A.R.

Peron said he's not concerned with getting a fair trial in Alameda County. Rather, he wonders if he and the other defendants will

he and the other defendants will be "judged by our peers." "San Francisco has a high sen-sitivity to AIDS and a high gay population," Peron said. Peron and the other defen-

ants maintain they sold marijua-na to sick and dying people.

The CBC office on Market
Street in San Francisco was raided by state narcotics agents on August 4 and ordered shut down by a judge. The state Attorney General's office, which is prosecuting the case, arrested Peron in Octo-ber after an indictment was issued by an Alameda County Grand

Jury.

The other five defendants, Peter Veilleux, Antonio Mar-tinez, John Hudson, Elizabeth Moore, and Adam Perry, surrendered themselves to the court in October. All six remain free on their own recognizance. Five pleaded morally not guilty, and the sixth pleaded not guilty to

the charges.

No trial date has been set. No trial date has been set. Peron said the next court appearance will be February 27, when a hearing to dismiss the charges based on the passage of Proposition 215 will be held. ▼

Bashing

◆ page 1

at Piedmont [a Haight Street new and used women's clothing store]. A lot of drag queens buy their clothes there. I was talking to those girls," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. As the group affectionately ban-tered back and forth – replete with

tered back and forth – replete with touching and hugging and dishing on their outfits – Wisevogel said Amy Massey, a Piedmont clerk, stuck her hand down the front of his dress and "copped a feel."

After "everyone' said that I should do it to her," Wisevogel said he also began to "cop a feel," but quickly stopped because he realized from Massey's reaction that although she had done a similar act to him, she "looked uptight."

The next thing he knew, he said, he was being slugged in the face by an assailant who was call-

face by an assailant who was call-ing him "a fucking faggot."

The alleged assailant, Michael

The alleged assailant, Michael Montgomery, was initially held on \$150,000 bail ordered by Municipal Court Judge Herb Donaldson. He was released after Superior Court Judge Donna Hitchens, who was substituting in Municipal Court, ordered the bail reduced to \$15,000.

Montgomery's bail was posted by Massey

Although Wisevogel had pre-viously considered Massy "a friend," he denounced her as a "gutter shark" because of subsequent incidents, including allegedly lying to police about the incident. A month after the incident, Massey filed a police report claiming that Wisevogel had ex-posed and touched her breast in

the incident.

According to a police report obtained by the Bay Area Reporter, Massey initially misidentified her assailant boyfriend to the police who responded to the felony assault, and said his name was Jeffrey Adams.

Massey's subsequent claims that she had been sexually battered during the incident are also contradicted by eyewitnesses, according to Clark.

"That just isn't believable," he said, adding that the "obvious im-

said, adding that the "obvious im-plication" is that Massey's false plication" is that Massey's false statement about the assailant's identity was to protect her boyfriend, even though he had allegedly assaulted a friend and Piedmont patron.

He also said that Massey's untruths at the scene of the crime raise questions about her honesty "all the way down the line."

In the aftermath of the anti-

gay attack, Wisevogel had four upper teeth surgically wired to stabilize them from falling out of his upper gum, but dentists were unable to save one badly damaged tooth and had to surgically remove it, Clark told the Bay Area

Reporter.
Wisevogel also reports that as a result of the dental injuries, he suffered a serious throat infection and requires continuing dental

and requires continuing dental and medical care.

Montgomery, a Washington resident, faces nine years in a California prison if convicted on the felony assault with intent to commit great bodily injury, and the anti-gay hate charges, stemming from the alleged attack.

Massey could not be reached for comment. ▼

Muni basher

◆ page 3

the delay, which he says raises further questions about the transit authority's concern for the safety

of lesbian and gay passengers.

"You're kidding me. That's ridiculous," Sheehy said. "I think it shows a tolerance for homophobia within Muni. Muni's not safe for lesbians and gays a lot of

Sheehy, too, was a victim of Muni passenger violence earlier this year, when he intervened in an anti-gay attack against a vulnera-ble passenger. Sheehy was assault ed by two juveniles in the incident.

Although Mayor Willie Brown has supported using rehabilitated former gang members to ride high-crime Muni lines, Sheehy said that it would also be "a good idea" to station lesbian and gay anti-violence monitors as a deter-rent aboard lines where there were

reports of anti-gay assaults.
"The issue is a public safety issue," he said, "and Muni needs to have a clear policy about drivers charged with violent crimes against the public."

Kissed and bussed

In the July incident, Joubert, who was off-duty but dressed in a Muni Railway uniform, allegedly attacked Muni patron Sonny Vukic after his lover briefly kissed Vukic on the cheek and got off the

According to eyewitnesses, Joubert called the pair "faggots," threatened to kill Vukic, and made anti-gay religious statements such as "Don't you read the Bible,

where are your morals?"

After Vukic told him to shut up, eyewitnesses said that Joubert said that he had the authority to order the gay men off the bus, challenged Vukic to a fight, then repeatedly slugged the victim and injured his leg after grabbing and twisting it in an effort to pull him from his seat.

Community United Against Violence Hate Violence Client Ad-Violence Hate Violence Client Advocate Jennifer Rakowski told the Bay Area Reporter that although she had "more faith in the criminal justice system than Muni" to resolve such problems, she expressed some satisfaction that Joubert was finally removed from driving.

driving.

"As far as I'm concerned, that's five months too late," Rakowski said. "I'm glad they finally took decisive action, finally." ▼

Xmas Camp

◄ page **15**

ment, the red sequined slipper from the Wizard of Oz (\$10.95); frivolous clocks a la Salvador Dali (\$140-185); and for the camp ro-(\$140-185); and for the camp romantic, a natty knapsack picnic ensemble complete with wine holder, wine glasses, and fluffy napkins (\$89.95).

Camp Castro

Castro puts on its campest face for Christmas, which is quite a feat considering its considerable success the rest of the year.

success the rest of the year.

Camp begins at Uncle Mame
(21933 Market). Even though
they're looking for a new home,
and advertising for anyone with
ideas as to where that might be,
while it lasts there just isn't anything like it. Take, for instance, the
Penis Butter bottle ("A Fistful of
Fun"); Alone & In Love Palm
Balm; or Boob Lube (A Little
Bitty on Each Titty), for \$5.99
each, Mousepads, exclusively deeach. Mousepads, exclusively designed for Mame, feature Audrey Hepburn, Farrah-Fawcett Majors Hepburn, Farrah-Fawcett Majors, and two Wonder Women kissing (\$19.95). They've got pink flamingo salt and pepper shakers (\$4.99), Liberace light switch covers (\$16), and the world's pretti-

ers (\$16), and the world's prettiest Brooke Shields doll with life-like bushy eyebrows (\$175).

Michael Bruno luggage, leather goods, and gifts (2267 Market) also caters to picture frame freaks who know where to find the best buy in town. An extraordinary collection of gold and silver filigree frames with velvet

backing compete with frames made of pot metal, pewter ster-ling, leather, and wood in copies ling, leather, and wood in copies of Baroque and Rococo designs. (While shopping, we were shown a framed dollar bill ready for a customer who must have ordered the "Queen for A Day" custom matting.) Bruno has been in business for 15 years, so guess he knows his girls.

For musical camp, Medium Rare Records (2310 Market) — "Where everything is well done" — just can't be beat. Their perky staff is always ready to reminisce with customers, and they serve the coolest camp CDs we've

the coolest camp CDs we've heard. They're famous for their Diva collection (\$15-20), which includes Eartha Kitt, Shirley Bassey, Peggy Lee, Betty Hutton, Elaine Paige, Petula Clark, Connie Francis, and Doris Day (to name a few). Sylvester's Greatest Hits is

on hand, along with Sharon McNight doing Sophie Tucker at The Plush Room (\$15.99).

Wild Card (39798 17th Street) has one of the tiniest storefronts in town, and one of the largest selections of camp paraphernalia we've come across, including a huge collection of wild wrapping paper, cards, and gay-oriented items of every shape and size for all occasions. They

opened on April Fool's Day, so that should give you a clue. **Happy Trails** (4229 18th Street) is one of the newest addi-tions to Castro, situated next to Cala Foods. It has an interesting selection of antiques, but what really caught our eye were the sleazy fridge magnets with titles like Topless Waitress, Queer Daddy, and Lesbian in Black Lace

(\$4.50). Happy Shopping, mes amis! ▼

Kwanzaa

◀ page 22

Also appearing will be dancer/choreographer Robert Henry Johnson and his dance troupe; actresses Karen Polk (For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide) and Carolyn King (Four Big Girls); storyteller Mari-jo; and Paul Daniels of the Oakland Interfaith Choir.

Hypolite said he hopes next

week's event will increase LGAD-DA's exposure and attract new members, as it has in previous years. LGADDA was formed in January 1992 to give a political

voice to the concerns and needs of voice to the concerns and needs of lesbians and gay men of African descent in the Bay Area. The group has also formed coalitions with other organizations on issues of mutual concern to overcome racism and to further economic and social justice. ▼

The free Kwanzaa celebration starts Thursday, Dec. 26 at 5:30 p.m. in the Koret Auditorium at the Main Library at Larkin and Grove streets, or block from the BART/MUNI Civic Center station. For more information, call (510) 534-4492. at Larkin and Grove streets, one Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga



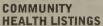
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y Comics #18	Gay Comics #10	I hereby verify that I am over 18 ye
y Comics #17	Gay Comics #6	
y Comics #16	Special Gay Comics #1	

cluded

ars old

Mail to: Gay Comics • 395 Ninth Street • SF • CA • 94103

HEALTH RESOURCES



Send health resource listings to: Roberto Friedman

Community Health
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Acupuncture
The Community Acupuncture Project offers free acupuncture Wed., 9-11:30am, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 450 Connecticut. 282-9603.

AIDS Benefits Counselors
Professional review and counseling about benefits
for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For Intake
scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Dementia CARE Unit At St. Mary's Medical Center seeks volunteers to visit patients with HIV-related cognitive impair-ments. Call Stephan Ouellette, MSW, 750-4976.

AIDS Emergency Fund
Provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

AIDS Health Project

drop-In groups for HIV+ and PWA, more. Info, intake Interviews: 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline
Volunteers needed to provide telephone emotional support, intensive training course provided, 984-1902.

AIDS Memorial Grove Monthly workdays: weeding, clearing, replanting at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

AIDS Treatment Education Network Provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS: holistic healing and survival strate-gies. 284-6237.

Alternative Family Project
Offers family counseling, support groups and
events for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and
transgendered members. 566-5683.

Bereavement Groups
For family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Boy + Boy Actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 431-2ACT xBOY.

Brothers Network Support services for the gay, bisexual and trans-gender African-American community, 973 Mar-ket, Suite #650. Call for groups and schedule: 356-8140.

Buddhist AIDS Project Provides Info on Buddhist resources, events, and HIV alternative health services. Call 522-7473.

Catholic Charities Residential and direct HIV services include Guer-rero House, Peter Claver Community, more. 814 Mission. 281-1200.

Chemically Sensitive & HIV Support group forming for those allergic to perfumes and chemi-cals. 922-1348.

Clinica Esperanza The HIV Clinic at Mission Neighborhood Health Center provid comprehensive billingual HIV vices. Sliding scale fees. 431-3212.

Coming out support group for men Meets Weds, 6-7:30pm at New Leaf, 1853 Mar-ket St. Men of all ages welcome. Facilitated by Kirk Hinman, Ph.D.. Info: 626-7000.

Community United Against Violence Begins training Volunteer Counselors on their 24-hour crisis line. Call Nhu at 777-5500.

Diabetics Support group for gay, lesbian and bisexual Type

I and Type II diabetics In SF and the Bay Area. Info: (510) 865-2933.

Filipino Task Force on AIDS
Provides prevention, education and direct care services to Filipinos and others affected by HIV/AIDS.
1540 Market, Suite 325. Info: 703-9880.

Gay/Lesbian Legal Referral Service Seeks gay-sensitive law students as volunteer law clerks, one 3-hr shift/week at GLRS office, Oak-land. Info: 621-3900.

Glide-Goodlett
HIV/AIDS Project
Free, confidential HIV antibody
testing, Wed. 12-4 pm, 5-8 pm.
Case management, support
groups, AIDS prevention and education. 330 Ellis, Sulte
518, 567-2273.

Community cenabilitation and Ater-care Program, counseling and HIV education, free. 529 Clayton. Hector, 565-1909.

Healing Alternatives Foundation Maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Re-source Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products, open Tues.-Sat. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

tion: phone/fax tree action alerts, government lob-bying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. 487-3034.

HIV Testing
Free, anonymous testing, counseling and education. Irst Thursday and 3rd Friday of each
month, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison, upstalrs.

Immune Enhancement Project
Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Sponsors support groups for HIV negative men Tues. evenings, 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 522-1785. Iris Center

Women's counseling and recovery services for women with HIV, no/low fee. 333 Valencia St. Info: 864-2364.

Jewish Family and Children's Services AIDS Project Counseling, support groups, case management, more for Jewish people with HIV and their loved ones. 561-1241.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center Quality, affordable, non-judgmental medical care to women by women, special outreach to lesbian and bisexual women. 1748 Market 565-7667.

New Leaf transgender substance abuse group Mondays 4-5:30pm. Contact Fred Barrlos, 626-7000 x146.

BAYAREA REPORTER LASSIFIE

Holiday deadlines for the **Bay Area Reporter classifieds**

December 26 Xmas issue • Friday Dec. 20th, 12 noon January 2 New Years issue • Friday Dec. 27, 12 noon

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Vistarealty **LEGAL NOTICES**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209648

STATEMENT FILE NO. 209648
The following person(s) are doing business as CHAT HOUSE, 139 Eighth St., San Francisco, CA 94103: Catherine Fields, 877 Guerrero St., San Francisco, CA 94110: Maureen McGarry, 241 Hartford St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business ame on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Catherine Fields. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 27, 1996. 1996. Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1996.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 982713

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL for change of name. The application of CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application proposing that HIS name be changed to CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL has filed an application for CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL has filed an application for CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL has filed an application that CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL has filed an application that HIS name be changed to CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL has filed an application that CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL has filed an application that CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL has filed an application to CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL HAS HAVEN AND THE ARCHAIL HAS AND THE A

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 982794

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of CHARLES THOMAS BREWER for change of name. The application of CHARLES THOMAS BREWER for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that CHARLES THOMAS BREWER has filed an application propos-

ing that HIS name be changed to JACK-SON BREWER-LOPEZ. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 6th day of January, 1997, at 9 o'-clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of Said hearing. Dated this 25th day of November, 1996. Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1996.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 209512
The following person(s) are doing business as JUDNICK, 2888 San Bruno Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134: HCE & Beverage Services LLC (CA), 2 Chester, Daly City, CA 94014. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business ame on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Signed Horace Diamond. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 20, 1996.

Recorder, by Keith Wong. Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, 1996.

as ERIN TRUCKING, 839 Santiago St., San Francisco, CA 94116: John Thomas Kehoe, 839 Santiago St., San Francisco, CA 94116. Registranti(5) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 6, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed John Kehoe. This statement was filed with the County (Lerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 06, 1996. vember 06, 1996. Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209886 STATEMENT FILE NO. 209886
The following person(s) are doing business
as SAN FRANCISCO BICYCLE
RENTALS, 791 Atherton Ave, Novato,
CA 94945: Stewart MacGregor Kerr, 791
Atherton Ave, Novato, CA 94945: Conrad
Hanns, 791 Atherton Ave, Novato, CA
94945. Registrant(s) commenced business
under the above fictilious business name
on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed
Stewart M Kerr. This statement was filed
with the County Clerk of the City and
County of San Francisco, CA on December
5, 1996. 5, 1996. Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 209730
The following person(s) are doing business as JOHN'S ORGANICS, 2822 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA 94123: John Van-Sicklen Maeck II, 2822 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA 94123: John Van-Sicklen Maeck II, 2822 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA 94123: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of December 12, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed John VanSicklen Maeck II. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed John VanSicklen Maeck II. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 02, 1996.

Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209835 STATEMENT FILE NO. 209835
The following person(s) are doing business
as ACE PRINTING & GRAPHICS, 987
Hlaght SL, Suite 6, San Francisco, CA
94117: Peter Christopher Kirsch, 987
Haight SL, Suite 6, San Francisco, CA
94117. Registrant(s) commenced business
under the above fictitious business name
on the date of December J, 1996. This
business is conducted by an individual.
Signed Peter Kirsch. This statement was
filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 6, 1996. Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 209698
The following person(s) are doing business
as 1. A.R. MARTIN ENT. 2. A.R. M.
SALES, 775 Post St., Ste #100, San Francisco, CA 94109: Amold R. Martin,
775 Post St., Ste #100, San Francisco,
CA 94109: Registrant(s) commenced business name on the date of N/A. This business is among the state of Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 2097.13
The following person(s) are doing business as VIBRANTLY YOURS, 166 Geary St. #200, San Francisco, CA 94108: Vera Walker, 16298 Foothill Blvd. #1, San Leandro, CA 94578. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above ficilitious business name on the date of December 4, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Vera Walker. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the Gity and County of San Francisco, CA on December 02, 1996.

Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 1996.

STATEMENT FILE NO. 209934
The following person(s) are doing business as RAND COMMUNICATIONS, 2544
Huntington Drive, Macon, Georgia 31206.
Bob P. Johnson, 2544 Huntington Drive,
Macon, GA 31206. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictilious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual.
Signed B.P. Johnson. This statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 12, 1996. 12, 1996. Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME TATEMENT FILE NO. 209929
The following person(s) are doing business a PARKER HOUSE, THE, 520 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114: William J. Boeddiker, 520 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114: Negistrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 30, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed William J Boeddiker. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 12, 1996. Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209947
The following person(s) are doing business as PASTA POMODORO, 816 Fiving St., San Francisco, CA 94122: Blum-Paganin, Inc., (CA Corp.), 417 Burnett Ave, San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 29, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Deborah Paganin V.P. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 12, 1996.

1996. Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209772 STATEMENT FILE NO. 209772
The following persons of a red doing business as 1. FIRE HORSE PRODUCTIONS 2.
MISTRESS MIDDRI, 724 Chenery St.,
San Francisco, CA 94131: Middor IK. Herring, 724 Chenery St., San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 10, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual.
Signed Midori K. Herring, This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 03, 1996.
Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209953 STATEMENT FILE NO. 209953
The following person(s) are doling business as FAILTE PAINTING, 451 20th Ave.,
San Francisco, CA 94121. Peter Gerard
Paul Mellett, 451 20th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business anme on the date of September 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Peter Mellett. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on December 12, 1996.
Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 1996.

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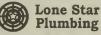
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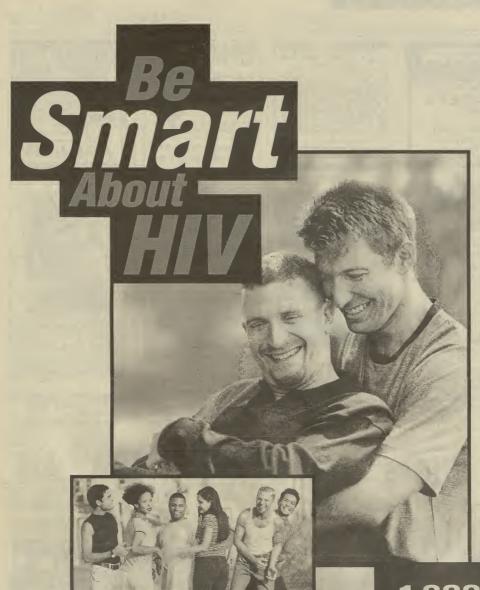
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OCTOBER 1996

'Flirt' is a dizzying look at love that spans three continents, three languages, three races, and two sexual orientations.

'Batman Collected' is the ultimate in Batmania.



John Fisher's latest takes a withering look at life in the Ivory Tower.

page 41



BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAINM

Vol. 26 • No. 51 • 19 December 1996

Nutcracker sweet



Sister swank Deborah Harry for New Year's

page 47 ▶

by Glen Helfand

n the — gasp — 20 years since the release of Blondie's debut album, Deborah Harry has never gone away. At the height of the late-'70s New York New Wave scene, she was the blond bombshell alternative to Marilyn Monroe, who, for some of us, has never been a very interesting icon. The girl Harry played was far more resilient, hip, fabulously standoffish, and always seemed to be invited to the coolest parties. With her devilish use of international pop stardom and her band's appropriation of underground styles — disco, rap, world beat — Harry paved the way for Madonna. Harry, however, has managed a more consistent and convincing film career, apmanaged as the statement of th

— Harry paved the way for Madonna. Harry, however, has managed a more consistent and convincing film career, appearing in such films as *Videodrome*, *Hairspray*, *Heavy*, and the upcoming *Copland* with Sylvester Stallone.

Her solo albums — *Koo Koo*, *Deaf Dumb and Blonde*, *Debravation* — may not always relive Blondie's prime fusion of pure pop and underground glam, but each is unique in its own right. Harry, however, seems to have carved a niche for herself as a collaborator of choice, working with Iggy Pop, The Heads, and Jazz Passengers (with whom Harry has recorded an album set for a February release) and others.

Next week, Harry pulls into town for a Universe/Plea-

Next week, Harry pulls into town for a Universe/Plea-suredome New Year's Eve show, an unusually intimate setting for someone who is used to performing in stadiums. In a brief phone chat from New York earlier this week, Harry

Mark Morris' 'Hard Nut' deconstructs Xmas classic

by Stephanie von Buchau

et's face it. Unless you get off watching kids enjoy themselves, there isn't much for adults in the typical Nutcracker. They say the sinuous "Danse arabe," with its skinny, scantily-clad koochi-dancer is there to keep the daddies awake. What if you're a gay dad? Are you supposed to occupy yourself by counting her ribs? Go see The Hard Nut at U.C. Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall instead. Mark Morris' spoofy yet surprisingly sweet Nutcracker deconstruction features the master himself, clad in diaphanous yellow robes, a yashmak covering his moustache, and his own luxuriant hair flowing out from under a desert headdress, doing the "Danse arabe" with a quartet of blue-robed Arab sheiks writhing at his feet.

The entire Hard Nut, with its double- and triple-entendres, is as adult as you can get this side of an X rating, Morris, playing an alcoholic lounge lizard (in tight green alligator-print bell bottoms), feels up the ladies in the first act party scene, including the ambiguous African-American housekeeper (Kraig Paterson on point and with attitude). Morris is just a background character at this dysfunctional family Christmas party, yet the observant audience roared at

Christmas party, yet the observant audience roared at every one of his outrages, including a bit where he re-

page 36 ▶

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OBLIVION

by Pithy Galore, Patti Hostel, and Bunny Bobs

undreds of thrill-seekers packed the Castro Theatre last Friday night to hear **John Waters** hold forth on his life as the Sultan of Sleaze. Judging from the nonstop squeals of laughter we heard, the SRO crowd was suitably pleased. Without a doubt, A John Waters Xmas will surely be remembered as one of Marc Huestis' most thrilling Castro Theatre celebrity specta-cles. We didn't think it was possi-ble to surpass the sheer entertain-ment value of the caterwauling ment values in esneer entertainment values in esneer entertainment values, but we've discovered now that the Prince of Puke is truly in a league of his own. We were quite blown away by his 45-minute free-association monologue, which covered everything from what he did this year ("I accidentally smoked crack") to personal revelations ("Richard Speck becoming a she-male in prison is beyond even me.") to film criticism ("Forrest Gump, Rocky, and It's a Wonderful Life are three movies I don't ever need to see again."). There were holiday decorating tips ("I once tried to make Christmas lights painted with the faces of famous criminals"), ruminations on the true nals"), ruminations on the true meaning of Christmas ("It's real-ly about sex. What else do you call it when you go up and sit on some strange man's lap?") and reflec-

tions on what made him choose a life in the movies ("I decided that people look better under arrest when I saw a man get handcuffed at People's Park in Berkeley. He looked so glam-orous.")

Out

Naturally, there was much heartfelt

was much heartfelt reminiscing about all the great stars Waters has worked with — Mink Stole, Edith Massey, and, of course, Divine. "She really was amazing," said Waters. "She did just about everything for me. She ate does hit super through a rise. ate dog shit, swam through a river fully-clothed, shot up eye-liner, but the one thing she couldn't do but the one thing she couldn't do for me was puke on camera. Lord knows she tried [during the making of Female Trouble], but she just couldn't do it. We tried everything — Epicat even, but it wouldn't work. Finally we just used creamed corn, which worked just as well."



John Waters

Though Waters clearly was the main attraction last Friday, the Cha Cha Heels Contest at the top of the evening was no slouchfest. Arturo Galster (Patsy Kline), wearing a Santa suit, a string of twinkling lights, and several tons of red glitter, judged the event along with special guest star **Carol Lynley**, who's still working on that **Quasimodo** imitation. The contest was a scream, sometimes in the most literal sense of the word. Apparently, ugliness is still having a moment. Really, if some



Miss Cliché, winner of the Cha-Cha Heels contest.

film director wants to remake the Night of the Living Dead, we know where to send her for extras.

The winner of the contest was one Miss Cliche, whose highly stimulating anatomy we'd call anything we'd call anything
but trite. Other contestants included such
well-known dragster/impresarios as
Miss Heklina,
Dragzilla, Kathy
Queer, the bruised
and horrific Miss
Stitchy, and the putrescent Miss
Becky, who reminded us a lot of
Jerome, only wider and even

Jerome, only wider and even more car accident-like. Our fa-vorite contestant was the leggy and irresistibly sexy Miss On a Whim, who looked fab in a tight white mini-skirt and Pepto-Bis-

mol pink platforms.
While all the contestants did
their best to make fashion statements Friday, none could compare with that made by the emcee

ments Friday, none could compare with that made by the emcee of the event, Joan Jett Blakk, who looked simply stunning in a long black number cinched with a simple gold belt. Let's call it tasteful. Her patter was upbeat, snappy, non-attitudinal, and very today. Bravo, Joan.

Although Waters dropped many memorable bon mots throughout the evening, the funniest line we heard Friday came from Miss Galster, who, by evening's end, was picking glitter from every pore. When asked how she felt about being Miss Glitter '96, her rejoinder outpithied Pithy: "Honey, you aren't a real drag queen until you shit glitter!" Undoubtedly, Divine would agree.

Trannyspotting

Recently, we ran an item about a local dragster, one **Darlin'**, who turned off some of the more senstive folks at Trannyshack when, during the auspicious Miss Tran-nyshack contest, she recreated on-stage the gang-rape scene from Jodie Foster's The Accused. Sevone of the judges of the event,
Deena Davenport, even
screamed her disapproval. Well,
we have it from a good source that
the Trannyshack debacle wasn't
some fluke event but a kind of
promotional effort, albeit hack-

neyed, for a new club Darlin' is hawking called Gang-Bang (at the Gangway, 841 Larkin Street). The theme of this irregular and highly exclusive gathering is, to quote our source, "White trash stuff, mayhem, insurrection, dope-smoking, lurid striptease and people performing on the tables and on the bar." Call it business as

A dry run for Gang-Bang was apparently staged last Thursday night at the Gangway, and, our friend tells us, the place was a vir-tual who's-who of SF's tranny underground. Miss Heklina was there along with doorperson Miss Chocolate and the charming and talented Steve Lady. All three were out of drag, as was Ggreg were out of drag, as was **Gyrey Taylor**, who, attempting
anonymity, showed up in dark
glasses and a wig. **Miss Sugar**,
just back from New York, made an
appearance, as did **Portia 666**, **Miz Ana Matronic**, and the
enema-loving **Timmy Spence**,
who hasn't been showing her face
much lately since she did that little poop number. And LA filmmaker **Lawrence Elbert** turned
heads when he dropped in acheads when he dropped in ac-companied by delicious porn luminary **Sam Russell**. Elbert, who made the notorious *Days of Pen*tecost, is reportedly hard at work on his next film, which stars that numinous Queen Mab of the drag cosmos, Justin Bond.

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The Hard Nut

◀ Arts cover

turns from a trip to the men's room with toilet paper stuck to his shoe.

his shoe.

Morris choreographed *The Hard Nut* in 1991 as a farewell to the Belgian public and press, which had received the residency of his Dance Group with mixed emotions. His *Nutcracker* spoof, with its generous, tender moral center, may have been intended to center, may have been intended to flip off his tormentors, but you can't separate the artist from his art. Whatever else Morris may be, he is the supreme musical choreographer of our time. Faced with Tchaikovsky's beautiful score, he couldn't respond meanly, but only echo the humanity, sensuality and innocence of the music.

Thus the usually treacly party

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Choreographer Mark Morris

becomes a modish 1960s affair in which the quaint Biedermeier decors and dances are exchanged for the pop sensibility of Charles Burns ("Big Baby") and the hokey-pokey. Black-and-white sets are realized by Adrianne Lobel and the bilious green-and-red Christmas costumes are by Morris regular Martin Pakledinaz. The Stahlbaum kids are petulant brats, except for Marie (Marianne Moore), who adores her magician wodfather. Drosselmeier, because godfather, Drosselmeier, because he's given her the Nutcracker doll. You'll adore Drosselmeier, too, as

Now Ill adore Drosselmeier, too, as he is danced by tall, elegant Rob Besserer, whose pas de deux with his nephew (William Wagner) in the snow scene is the heart of Morris' work. Here, the older man passes on his wisdom to the younger; if you want to see it as homoerotic, feel free.

After the exhilarating snow scene, in which unisex dancers clad in tutus fling white confetti as they jete across the stage, the second act follows the grisly E.T.A. Hoffmann story jettisoned by Tchaikovsky. In it, an angry Mouse Queen bites the face of a baby princess and, until a hero can crack a magic nut with his baby princess and, until a hero can crack a magic nut with his teeth, the grown-up princess (Tina Fehlandt) will remain ugly. Drosselmeier travels the world searching for an iron-jawed hero and gets to watch national dances from Russia, Spain, China and Arabia. (Watching handsome young men crack their jaws on a silver walnut makes for mindboggling symbolism.)

gling symbolism.)
When Marie grows up enough to yield to her Nutcracker prince (Drosselmeier's nephew), Morris gives them a giddy duet in which they kiss as much as they dance,

but not before the mind-blowing "waltz of the flowers," which fea-tures Peter Wing Healey, formerly a slender modern dancer but now a zaftig drag queen, giving the all-time hilarious camp performance. Trockaderos, eat your hearts out.
Mark Morris funny, campy, compassionate and, above all, musical
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The Hard Nut, with the The Hard Nut, with the Berkeley Symphony conducted by Cal Performances director Robert Cole, will be performed again at Zellerbach Hall on December 19, 20, and 21. Call (510)-642-9988 for tickets and information. Talkets and information. information. Tickets are also available through BASS on (510)-762-BASS.



The Chinese man (left) encounters the enigmatic Drosselmeier (Rob Besserer, right).

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Batman revealed

Chip Kidd celebrates Caped Crusader's complex persona

by Glen Helfand

n the realms of merchandising and homoerotic innuendo, you could easily say Batman is forever. In the holiday season be-fore George Clooney's forthcom-ing star turn as the Caped Cru-sader, the coffee-table book of choice is book designer Wun-derkind and author Chip Kidd's Batman Collected, which artfully links Batman's pop cultural influence to the author's personal remembrances of the man in black.

Lush and sometimes even ominous in design, Batman Collected consists of nearly 300 pages of Batman memorabilia, most of it culled from Kidd's own collection, and all of it superbly pho-tographed by collaborator Geoff Spear. Between its covers one

Spear. Between its covers one finds a veritable Batman museum — inflatable action-figures, Japanese comic books, cereal boxes, even toothbrushes, all emblazoned with the image of the Winged Avenger. There's even a little-known 1961 painting by Andy Warhol, as well as a butt shot of the sinewy bat suit worn by Val Kilmer in Batman Forever.

"I've wanted to do this book since I was six years old — and there are pictures in it to prove

since I was six years old — and there are pictures in it to prove it," says the 32-year-old Kidd from his home in New York. The revealing snapshots he refers to were taken on Halloween, 1968. "My mother was an excellent seamstress and she made these great Batman costumes for my brother and me. She went as Batgirl. It's a family thing," he boasts. It's clear from looking at the book that Kidd, one of today's most celebrated book designers, has had a long-term jones for the

has had a long-term jones for the man in black leather and tights. Yet, while he admits his interest in Batman is something of an obsession, the designer is loathe to attribute his fascination to anything

homoerotic.
"Everybody speculates that Batman and Robin are gay," he explains. "But it's like asking if Popeye and Olive Oyl are sleeping together. I suppose they are if someone draws them doing that.

They're fictional characters — they do what anyone tells them to do."
Kidd says Batman Collected is not a gay-themed book, that it's "more about memory and childhood, capitalizing and mythmaking. Certainly some of the images in it can be seen as homograpis. in it can be seen as homoerotic, but the same can be said of tooth-paste commercials. As a child I wasn't dying for Batman to crash through the window and show a good time.

Complicated aesthetic

If the author seems reticent to explore his own interest in Bat-man's sexual charisma, he is cerman's sexual charisma, he is certainly forthcoming about the sex appeal of Hollywood Batmen. Kidd explains that the original Batman character, created in the late 1930s for DC Comics, was a composite of Gregory Peck and Cary Grant. "Who do we have like that now?" Kidd ponders. He's intrigued by George Clooney's upcoming characterization, but his dream choice is playwright and actor Sam Shepard. "Chiseled handsomeness and rugged mashandsomeness and rugged mas-culinity are required," he explains. "Sam's got the perfect face for Battman." But Batman is more than a pretty face, says Kidd, who relates that one of the principle

reasons for his interest in Batman is the aesthetic complexity that results from a character who sometimes isn't what he seems. "It's an image reversal thing," Kidd explains. "Batman looks like a demon, but he's anything but. I think that dynamic is pretty cool."

As for Adam West, who played Batman on the 1960s television series, and whose mug is part of Bat-man Collected, Kidd doesn't have much to say. Evidently the photo shoot with the actor was strained, but Kidd demurs when it comes to details. Could it be that he had a childhood crush on West? "I didn't after I met him, that's for sure," he states acerbically. Kidd's relations with other

celebrities, particularly literary ones, have been more meaningful. The designer has created covers for such high-profile authors as Allan Gurganis (The Oldest Living Confederate Widow), Michael Crichton (Jurassic Park), Gore Vidal (Palimpsest: A Memoir), and he's currently working on a design for Larry Kramer's soon-to-be-published autobiog-raphy. Kidd has also worked with New Republic editor Andrew Sullivan on Virtually Normal, and will continue the collaboration for his follow-up titles on friendship and gay marriage. "Chip is clearly the most talented designer I've ever come across," says Sullivan, who is also one of Kidd's good friends. "He's one of those designers who understands what you're trying to express intellec-tually and can really convey that in visual terms."

in visual terms."

Not everyone is raving, however. Boy George wasn't so pleased with Kidd's jacket for his autobiography, *Take It Like a Man.* "Boy George doesn't like me," says the designer, admitting he's never actually met the pop star. It seems George thought. star. It seems George thought Kidd's use of a wrap-around

page 46 ▶





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In 1973 this was a mere houseplant.

Christmas conifer

by Mary Richards

ou can't miss it as you come up 21st Street. About halfway up the block, along-side a handsome, gleaming white Victorian, stands an enormous Christmas Tree covered with giant multicolored ornaments, candy canes, and a gay flag. Bears, dogs, canes, and a gay flag. Bears, dogs, ducks, tigers, and even pigs cavort on its limbs, and beneath its boughs, huge, brilliantly wrapped presents sit, never to be opened except in the imaginations of the thousands of children who visit the tree and wonder at its splendor.

dor.

Like the tree in the Nutcracker Suite, Tom Taylor's tree has grown to incredible proportions over the years, and to show off its glorious splendor, Taylor for the past six years has decorated the 35-foothigh tree during the holidays for the pleasure of folks far and wide. Although it is a time-consuming, exhausting, and costly job, neither Tom nor his lover of 23 years, Jerry Goldstein, can imagine life without it.

The couple's resulting fame has its price tag, of course. A few years back, a lawyer with Walt Disney Productions sent the cou-Disney Productions sent the cou-ple a stern warning that they are not to use Disney characters with-out proper authorization. Some holiday characters may be owned by corporations, but no one can take away the names of Tom and Jerry that adorn the two gigantic red stockings hanging from the red stockings hanging from the balcony next to the tree. Each year, churches and school

groups have their photos taken under the tree, and families use it as a backdrop for their Christmas cards. Last year, the week before Christmas, 5,000 children came to see the tree, which has been fea-tured on television and in newspapers here and even in such farway places as South America and

The Norfolk Island Pine that The Norfolk Island Pine that was Jerry's houseplant 23 years ago was "shoved out in the yard" to fend for itself. It soon grew so high that putting lights on it was difficult. Even using a ladder, it wasn't easy reaching the top. "Then I realized," Tom recalls, "we had to do something. The honest truth is, I was having lunch at the Elephant Walk one day and look-ing at the [Castro] Christmas tree and I remember thinking that it should look better than that. I

thought, for a bunch of queens this is embarrassing."

In the beginning, Tom envi-sioned a tree that would look about five or six-feet high, with about five or six-feet high, with presents in proportion to its size, because, he says, "In the average home of the average child, that's what size the Christmas tree is. Queens may have 12-foot trees with mirrors, but in your average house that's what's there.

"When I started this, I really rever ever though of the child."

"When I started this, I really never even thought of the children," he adds. "Because I'm gay and I'm older and we just don't see kids or deal with them. Of course, after I designed it the first year or two I realized that it wasn't my gay friends who were interested in the tree, it was thousands of those neighbors' kids."

Creating the various objects that go underneath the tree took a great deal of time and energy, and there were special considerations to keep in mind, like the weather. Hence, the ribbons on the packages, as well as the wrapping itself, have been made of vinyl canvas to withstand rain, wind, and sun. And, reminds wind, and sun. And, reminds Tom, "the packages under the tree have been upholstered this year so kids can sit and jump and climb on them when they get their pictures takes."

tures taken."

Because the tree has become such an important part of the neighborhood, everybody has done their part to see that it shines bright during this special season. Even PG&E and the Lowrie Paving Company worked overtime to be sure their work on the street was completed in time for the holidays. Earlier this year, when the tree began to bend in the direction of the sun, trucks and cranes from the Trees of California and Trees of Oregon company moved it to another side of the house. Now that the tree is wheel-

chair-accessible, even more visi-tors can enjoy it. "We had a prob-lem with blind [seeing-eye] dogs when we had the narrow ramp," says Tom. "A blind dog is fine, because he can walk right up to it and stop. We have a lot of blind people who come. They love to feel the tree, and their friends ex-plain what it is to them."

plain what it is to them.

Starting this week and continuing every day through Christmas
Day, Santas will hand out candy
canes to kiddies when they come
to see the tree during the evening hours when its many lights are twinkling. And as Christmas draws closer, Tom will be there, too, handing out toys to children. "We have a few thousand toys we give

out so that all the kids walk away with something in their hand." Near the tree is a large letter addressed to all who visit it. It reads: "Welcome to The Christreads: "Welcome to The Christ-mas Tree, an annual tradition. I keep my lights on from 5 to 12. I love to be in pictures, so feel free to snap away. I only ask that for each picture, you make a dona-tion to a local charity. If you have special needs, or for more infor-mation, call me at 647-5624." ▼

The Christmas Tree is located at 3650 21st Street between Church and Sanchez, Santas Unuren and Sanchez. Santas give out candy from 6 p.m. till 10 p.m. daily, rain or shine. The Christmas Tree is wheelchair-accessible.



Trifle times three

Hal Hartley's 'Flirt'

by Robert Julian

lirt, writer-director Hal Hartley's latest film, is a three-movement roundelay three-movement roundelay of romance gone wrong. The basic setup is that of a lover whose partner demands a commitment — or the relationship is over. In the face of this ultimatum, the lover goes off to explore the possibilities of a third, married paramour, only to encounter the pistol-macking spouse of this third. tol-packing spouse of this third

party.

Flirt tells this same story three times, with different casts, in New York, Berlin and Tokyo. Each telling contains almost identical dialogue (in English, German or Japanese), but the gender, nation-ality and sexual orientation of the lovers change from one setting to the next.

This intellectually intriguing premise is executed with varying premise is executed with varying degrees of success in each of the three stories. In New York, Emily (Parker Posey) delivers the ultimatum to Bill (Bill Sage). These two attractive actors are saddled with stilted dialogue and direction that results in exceedingly mannered characterizations and delivery. The short storage lines. delivery. The short, staccato lines, delivered with the pacing of

Harold Pinter, are not aided by Hartley's self-conscious direction. Voiceover narration during the opening credits and a series of jump cuts draw too much attention to the act of filmmaking.

Hartley also seems to have an urge
— better resisted — to have the
film comment on its own success
or failure through the dialogue.
Each story also has a trio of
characters asked for advice by the
lover on the run. In New York, Bill
discusses his dilemma with three guys in the men's room of a bar. In the Tokyo segment, Miho (Miho Nikaidoh) talks things over with three women in a jail cell. And in Berlin, three German construction workers consider Dwight's (Dwight Ewell) predicaconsider ment. In addition, in the Berlin segment, Hartley has the con-struction workers debate whether or not the filmmaker is succeeding in his task at that point in the film.

film.

In Germany, the lovers are a May-December, interracial gay male couple. In the Japanese segment, a female dancer must explore the potential of her relationship, with her male tionship with her male director/choreographer. But de-spite these different variations on the director's theme, the story does not deepen or resonate as

each tale is told. No universal statement materializes. The same basic ruminations on flirting, commitment and infidelity are simply repeated in different

venues.

In the final segment, director Hartley appears as Miho's boyfriend, who is, apparently, a film director. This third telling of the story is the most compelling; it is a visual gem, beautifully composed and staged. Art director Towarki Mars and est description. moyuki Maruo and set decorator Fumiaki Suzaka deserve special commendation for their ethereal, surreal design accomplishment — imagine Japanese Noh drama blown through MTV. In one final self-referential mo-ment, the last shot of the film

ment, the last shot of the film shows actor/writer/director Hartley sitting at the airport with his foot on a can of film that bears the label "Flirt." He is joined by Miho, who snuggles up beside him just before the credits roll. After all the sound and fury — ultimatums, rejections and gunfire — the audience is ultimately left to mull over a story that never transcends the level of interesting intellectual construct. As a film, Flirt is a trifle. ▼

Flirt opens Friday, December 20, at the Opera Plaza Cinema.



Miho Nikaidoh

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Hytner heightens 'Crucible'

by Gary Morris

rthur Miller's ever-popular play *The Crucible* (1953) occupies a place somewhere between his textbook classic between his textbook classic Death of a Salesman (1949) and, say, his screenplay for the muddled The Misfits (1960). The Crucible was moderately successful during its first run, but subsequent revivals increased its popularity to the point that today it is almost as popular as Death of a Salesman.

Salesman.
Now, Nicholas Hytner (The Madness of King George) has made a film of The Crucible, starring Daniel Day-Lewis as John Proctor, Winona Ryder as Abigail Williams, and Paul Scofield as Williams, and Paul Scotleid as Judge Danforth. To realize the film, Hytner worked closely with Miller on adapting the play for the screen, and though some scenes and dialogue have been cut, the film remains largely faithful to the original. The difference between the two is that Hytner tries to use the film remains largely activate to use the film medium to heighten the play's themes, an ambitious en-deavor that has generally favor-

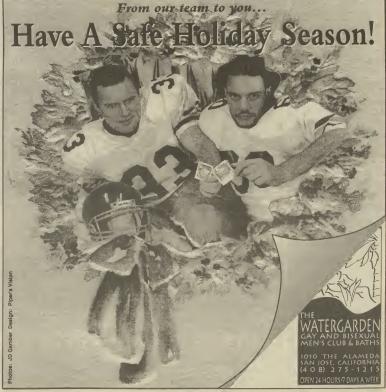
The film succeeds in expressing the play's sense of almost cos-mic injustice, convincingly repris-ing Miller's attack on McCarthy-ism, the spiraling effects of hyste-ria, kangaroo courts, and people's weakness in combating the true evil in our midst, the mob men-tality, embodied here by the wiz-ened old patriarch, Judge Dan-forth. Paul Scofield controls the forth. Paul Scofield controls the film as Danforth controls the town, suggesting rather than demonstrating his enormous power through small, telling gestures. Daniel Day-Lewis is typically passionate as Proctor, Miller's Everyman, an honest, intelligent man whose own powerful morality ultimately fails against the church's seemingly absolute power. The director's skill with his actors is evident throughout, especially and the second services of the second services and the second services are services. actors is evident throughout, especially in the scenes between Lewis and Joan Allen, who subtly fleshes out Miller's somewhat prosaic Elizabeth Proctor.

The big problem with this version of *The Crucible* is the casting blunder of Winona Ryder as Abi-gail. This vastly overrated, one-note actress relies on tiresome screeches and a scrunched-up scowl to impart The Evil That Is

Winona Ryder

character's driving passion for John Proctor, the fleeting sadness she feels at the damage she's wrought, or any emotion more complex than a cartoon-like lust for revenge for being spurned by Proctor.

The Crucible is in general



Musical epitaph

For Corigliano, making music is a form of eternal memory

by Bob Roehr

ohn Corigliano is a hot musi cal property these days. Of Rage and Remembrance (RCA Red Seal 09026-68450-2), his AIDS tragedy-inspired cantata for chorus and orchestra, is currently sitting high atop the Bill-board classical charts, and in the last six months two other record

last six months two other record labels have released CDs of the composer's work.

Of Rage and Remembrance is drawn from a movement of Corigliano's brooding and acclaimed Symphony No. 1, also on the RCA CD. The text by William M. Hoffmen beginnen. M. Hoffman begins:

"This is the season of stone: Dead leaves on a garden wall, Dry berries in bone-cold air, A brittle moon, an ashen sun."

Corigliano calls the cantata "my little quilt for friends." And like the AIDS Quilt, it embodies contradictory emotions — melancholy, bitterness, and also the warm remembrance of important friendships lost to AIDS. "You have to come to terms with that," Corigliano told me in a recent interview from his home.

a recent interview from his home in New York. "All of us in the gay community have to come to terms with what to do when you lost hundreds of people. How do you face life?

"You go on and be true to the ones you love. The way for me was the idea of eternal memory as a way of keeping people alive. I'm not saying it was a new thought, I'm just saying it is how we get through."

through."
At age 58, Corigliano seems in mid-morph between boy wonder and elder statesman. Though he is trim and moves with the agility and energy of an athlete, his silver-toned hair suggests a man of a certain age.

a certain age.

His music, however, is altogether new, and though it is not likely to replace Vivaldi as background music for brunch, Corigliano's compositions operate within an accessible melodic tradition, are often pleasantly tuneful, and, most importantly, have something to say. His work brims with a dynamic intensity that requires more than passive listening; this is music that seeks to engage the listener on a nowerto engage the listener on a power-ful emotional level.

"Commercial music is mainly "Commercial music is mainly meant to get you to listen to everything the first time," Corigliano explained. "But noncommercial music has this layered quality to it." For him, the composer must "entice" the listener at first hearing yet at the same time "hold back wonderful things" that encourage and reward repeated. encourage and reward repeated

encourage and reward repeated listening.

Though his work sounds effortless, Corigliano assured me that "every piece is difficult to write." He works slowly, on one project at a time, building a rational structure "from the idea of the piece." Melody, he explained,

evolves from "the architecture of the total work." Intensity is a characteristic of both Corigliano the man and his music. The composer's mercurial personality was more than evi-dent on the April day less year. dent on the April day last year when Of Rage and Remembrance was recorded at the Kennedy Center. His entire being seemed dedi-cated to the process as he followed the score with lowered glasses and measured each note as it pulsed through the maze of the control board. His hands moved as if he were conducting the piece, then darted to make a notation on the page. At one point, a jaw muscle twitched.

Recording is a grueling process, and Corigliano has been through it a lot lately. The entries this year include a String Quartet commissioned for the farewell tour of the Cleveland Quartet, recorded by that group and re-leased by Telarc (CD-80415). The label also released an all-Corigliano CD (Telarc CD-



John Corigliano

80421) by I Fiamminghi, The Or-chestra of Flanders. It brings to-gether a handful of his shorter and generally lighter works along with the premiere recording of Creations, a piece the Bible. The text of the piece is spoken by gay actor Sir Ian McKellen.

Almost all of Corigliano's work has now been recorded, so don't look for a flood of new offerings any time soon. But the existing catalog is deep and offers endless hours of repeated, rewarding listening enjoyment.

Out There

◄ page **35**

bersex Consortium's imaginatively titled opus, *The Perv's Guide to the Internet* (Rhinoceros, \$6.95). These Wired rejects' favorite chapter is widely rumored to be "Alt.sex.I Want it All," which features such choice newsgroups as alt.christnet.sex, alt.cuddle (aw!), alt.fetish.super-size (heavily traf-ficked by those who measure life ficked by those who measure life in inches), alt.sex.bestiality.barney, alt.sex.hello-kitty, etc. The self-described "married man," "urhan dyke" and "geeky gay dude" who have penned this net-sex primer promise to help the socially inept (and computer illiterate) explore the "kinkiest rest stops on the Info Superhighway" without leaving the comfort of their own homes. It's not for nothing that another chapter is entitled "Dirty Typin': One-Handed Conversation." Ofter, whose earliest sex education occurred in rest stops up and down curred in rest stops up and down (so to speak) Highway 280, rec-ommends the use of several Read/Right StaticStopper Cleaning Pads after especially intense sessions. After all, there's nothing like a soiled keyboard to discour age amour.

Tuna sandwich

The Ladies Who Lunch in Tuna, Texas (part of the cast of dozens in A Tuna Christmas, all brilliantly played by Joe Sears and Jaston Williams) have formed a new public service group. It's called the Smut Snatchers of the New Order, and their task this season is to fer-ret out obscene references in those innocuous-seeming Christmas carols. In a coup for public morals, Mrs. Vera Carp has demorals, Mrs. Vera Carp has de-tected and excised the homosek-shul subtext of "God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen"— "You know those people speak in codes!" As Bertha Bumiller explains to her defiant daughter, Charlene: "Censorship is as American as apple

pie. So shut up!"

Directed by Ed Howard, A
Tuna Christmas is a hilarious skewering of small-town Ameri-ka. Through December 22 at the Marines Memorial Theatre. Call 771-6900 to see if any tickets are left.

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Student bodies

John Fisher takes on higher learning

by Chad Jones

hy would John Fisher, award-winning play-wright and director of the huge hit Medea, the Musical, write a one-hour play, preview it on Medea's off night (Tuesday) using the Medea cast, and give it a run of only two nights? Answer: because he can. The play, called U.C., a Farce, is Fisher's spry take on the University of California at Berkeley's sexually charged campus, and though it may sound like something of a lark, it is often intelligent and inspired. If nothing else, it brims with Fisher's customary wit and intelligence.

U.C. gives the Medea ensemble a chance to take a break from the

a chance to take a break from the

show they have been performing for several years and move into the collegiate territory they first began covering in Fisher's first big San Francisco hit, *The Joy of Gay Sex.* In *U.C.*, however, the togas of *Gay Sex* have been exchanged for the more contemporary drag of the doctoral candidates and undergrads who are the focus of this light-hearted romp about sexual dergrads who are the focus of this light-hearted romp about sexual lunacy on a university campus. Those unfamiliar with the inner workings of Cal needn't worry about feeling left out, because even though the title refers to the University of California, the play's theme — frequent sex is the goal of today's university education — applies to institutions of higher learning everywhere.

Fisher has written himself a

Fisher has written himself a

structor and doctoral candidate in Berkeley's Drama Department (which, in real life, he is) who is his pupils (Darryl Stephens). Fisher meets with the student to apologize, and the two end up becoming boyfriends. Things get even more complicated when Fisher falls for one of his acting students (Christian Milne), but before he can untangle this new knot, the whole play devolves into

one giant onstage orgy.

Along for the ride are Paul Tena as a sexually ambivalent "straight" man who is dating Kegan Stedwell, another instructor who lusts after her collegians. The hilarious Corey Schaffer not only lusts after his students, he gets the hunky, undulating, nearly nude Matt Schmidt into his apartment. But before Schaffer can take it any further, he has to extract a consensual agreement from his guest, thus avoiding the highly charged and very public mistakes Fisher makes with his student beau.

student beau.

Ultimately, U.C. doesn't add up to much. It throws out a lot of issues — about sex between teachers and students, between old and young, black and white—but ultimately doesn't get far beyond merely pointing at them. There isn't time, really, considering the length. Maybe U.C. will eventually grow up to be a big play, but it's probably better that



John Fisher

it stay an entertaining trifle so that Fisher and his troupe can move on to meatier projects, like Com-bat! An American Melodrama, a promising opus about gay World War II soldiers that Fisher and Sassymouth Productions premiered for a short run in Berkeley last March. ▼

U.C., a Farce will be performed again at the Stage Door Theatre, Thursday, Jan. 2.

Pulp fictions

by Jerry Metzker

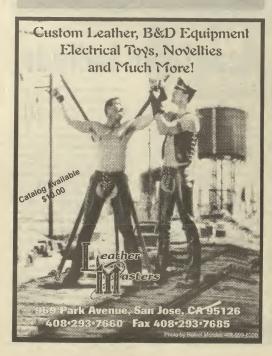
f the holiday season has you frazzled, raising your blood pressure instead of your fun level, then it's time to treat yourself to something wholly plea-surable, like Nellie Ole-

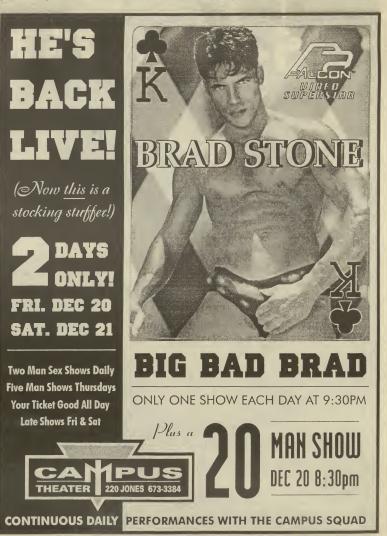
surable, like Nellie Oleson's new show, Pulp Nellie, currently at Josie's. A creation of one of America's most innovative comedy quartets, Nellie is just the confection you need to lift your spirits.

The show is a series of sketches that has something for everyone. For those who enjoy tasteless Jewish humor, there's a skit about a female Madonna wannabe who is hired as the featured entertainer at a bar mitzvah. Drag aficionados will get a kick out of a sketch in which Princess Jasmine and Pocahontas rail against Walt Disney for making them stars and then dumping them for a new animated bimbo. Humorless lesbians will enjoy a skit about, well, humorless lesbians. Joan Crawford, Calvin Klein, rent boys, lovers of musical-comedy, all become targets for humor in this 70-minute musical-comedy, all become targets for humor in this 70-minute

The attractive and talented writer-performers — Nora Burns, John Cantwell, Marissa Copeland, and Terrance Michael — have created a delightful evening of comedy that takes the enervating edge off the holidays and puts the fun back in Christmas.

Pulp Nellie continues at Josie's through December 22. Call 861-7933 for tickets and information.





Classical cuts

by Bob Roehr

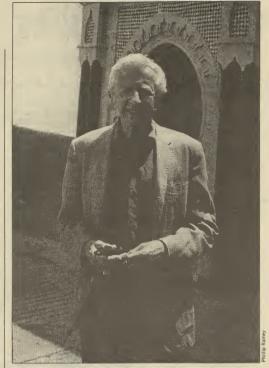
he great thing about it being only six days till Christmas is that it's only a matter of days before you pop the cork on that bottle of Veuve-Cliquot. The bad thing about it being only six days till Christmas is that most of you probably haven't even begun your Christmas shopping. To make things a little easier when it comes round to December 24 and you're plumb out of ideas for giftgiving, I have compiled a short list of new CD releases for the music lover in your life. All should be available at a store near you.

The Ultimate Opera Queen

(BMG 09026-68540-2) is the title of this CD, but one should surely take that marketing spin with a grain of salt. True, this recording is packed with 75 minutes of gorgeous arias sung by legends like Leontyne Price, Anna Moffo, and Montserrat Caballe, but true afcionados of the art form have already heard most of what's here. Like all compilations, this is a worthy start for the budding opera queen; it is, however, by no means comprehensive. Still, you can't go wrong with the legendary voices collected here.

OUT Classics II — Stepping Out (BMG 09026-68540-2) extends the marketing tie-in with another release. The models displayed on the jewel box are clothed this time, yet they are hardly less sensual for being covered up. "Step out onto the dance floor of queer music history! A collection of the world's greatest classical dance music by gay composers of three centuries," reads the small print. The record trots out exemplary excerpts from Tchaikovsky's ballets and other equivalents of classical radio's "Top 40." A few less common pieces are thrown in for good measure, like Samuel Barber's "Hesitation Tango." This collection is a good way to sample composers with whom you may be unfamiliar.

The Music of Paul Bowles (BMG 09026-68409-2) on BMG's Catalyst label captures music rarely heard live, if at all. Those who know Bowles probably know him as a writer. His 1949 novel The Sheltering Sky greatly influenced the Beat generation. But prior to his literary success, Bowles primarily wrote music. He was part of an important New York circle in the 1930s and 1940s that included Aaron Copland and later Leonard Bernstein. Bowles' music reflects both the spirit of Americana that finds idiomatic expression in Copland's work, and the Broadway musical theater then at its peak. The longest piece is "The Wind Remains," a combination of beautiful melodies and surreal disjointed excerpts from the poetry of Federico Garcia Lorca. Any fan of American music will delight in this disk.



Paul Bowles

An Empire Brass Christmas: The World Sings (Telarc CD80416) reminds us that it's that time of year again, when our ears will be assaulted by that omnipresent seasonal Muzak that takes Christmas tunes — many of them church hymns — and purees them into aurally lifeless sludge. Not this CD.

Accompanied on several cuts by the ethereal Laurie Monahan, the Empire gang shows us that seasonal tunes can be more than background music. Some cuts are reminiscent of Celtic music, others of new age, but the overall product has a gritty edge. Some of the cuts even rock.



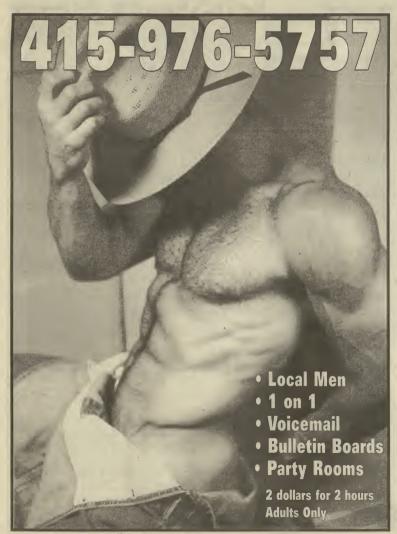
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by Philip Campbell

Boston Gay Men's Chorus, Freedom, Merriment & Joy, Robert Barney, Music Director, AFKA Records

very year it seems like new compilations of Christmas music flood the market. In recent years, gay and lesbian choruses across the country have gotten in on the act by releasing Yuletide recordings. Now, the Boston Gay Men's Chorus has issued its own holiday CD, a recording made during a live performance in Jordan Hall at the New England Conservatory in December of 1995.

Conservator,
1995.
While listening to this recording I found myself making harsh comparisons between the Bostonians and our own San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. While one

should keep in mind that our chorus outnumbers Boston's, that doesn't excuse the relatively thin sound of the boys from Beantown

town.

Before you call me Ebeneezer, though, I will say that the recording quality here is very high, and that there is a remarkable highlight—a wonderful rendition of "I'll be Home for Christmas" set against a piano accompaniment of Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" and "Embraceable You." This is a brilliant and beautifully executed juxtaposition. The arranger was John O'Neil. As for Charpentier's "Magnificat," however, the less eaid the better

said the better.

Freedom, Merriment & Joy is really a pleasant souvenir from what must have been a mellow evening, but I'm afraid that unless you were there for the performance, or hail from Boston, more than one listening isn't necessary. ▼



Perspicacious pussy

by Deborah Peifer

Riding Shotgun by Rita Mae Brown; Bantam, \$22.95

Murder, She Meowed by Rita Mae Brown and Sneaky Pie Brown; Bantam, \$21.95

true confession: I don't write fiction because, among other reasons, all of my characters sound exactly alike, which is to say, they all talk like me. The problem of many charac-

me. The problem of many characters speaking in the same voice was the reason I never cared for Rubyfruit Jungle, Rita Mae Brown's early novel which celebrated the joys of lesbiana.

Now I know that a novel in which the lesbian was delighted to be a dyke was a huge improvement over the pulp fiction of the '50s, in which the lesbian had to be cured or die, but that didn't make Rubyfruit a good novel. The make Rubyfruit a good novel. The problems of Rubyfruit continue years later with Brown's newest, Riding Shotgun, a weird amalgam of pastoral/historical/contemporary novel in which all of the characters are verbally indistinguishable as they lecture on our 20th-century ills. Oh yeah, and there is fox hunting, lots of fox

Pryor Deyhle Blackwood, called Cig by her friends (no, I don't know why), is a Master of the Foxhounds (so is Rita Mae – go figure), and is looking forward to a splendid hunt, which is de-scribed in excruciating detail. Cig has major money problems, owing to the untimely death of her overextended husband, but she's trying to stay afloat by sell-ing real estate and boarding hors-

Imagine her dismay when she learns that her husband died while doing the deed with her sis-ter, Grace. Hurt and cranky, Cig rides off into the fog, after another hunt, following a fox called Fat-tail, and winds up in 1699 at the home of her ancestors. And what do you know! The 1699 Pryor do you know! The 1699 Pryor Deyhle Blackwood has been in London for a couple years, so when the 1995 Pryor turns up, on a horse, wearing riding clothes, well everyone just naturally assumes that 1995 Pryor is the long-awaited 1699 Pryor. Huh?

Of course, Cig confides in Margaret, her 1699 brother's wife, that she comes from the future, using as proof her driver's license and a zipper, and after much confusion, Margaret accepts the miracle. The other 1699 folks find

certain things about Cig/Pryor kind of strange but assume that she has adopted the new English fashion. This reminded me of the "Coneheads" on the old Saturday

"Coneheads" on the old Saturday Night Live who explained their differences by claiming to be from France. It was equally believable.

After a long time in 1699, where she falls in love and has sex and hunts foxes, Cig/Pryor is chased by Indians back to the 20th century where she lectures. 20th century, where she lectures all and sundry on the beauties of

Riding Shotgun is a tedious and overlong excuse for a novel.

Brown is careless with her time Brown is careless with her time travel, and then there is that problem of everyone talking alike. Brown explains in an introduction that she wrote this work during a power failure when she just couldn't face rereading War and Peace or Das Kapital. Next time, I hope she'll choose to work on her

Sneaky delight

Murder, She Meowed, on the other hand, written by Brown and her cat, Sneaky Pie, is a delight. As with their earlier Pay Dirt, the mystery is *not* the reason to read this novel.

A series of murders, involving steeple-chase jockeys, threatens to decimate the small town of Crozet. Fortunately, Mrs. Murphy, a cat, and Tucker, her Corgi pal, with the help of mice, a heron and various animals, solve the mystery

early on.

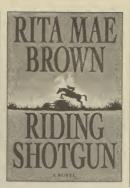
Unfortunately, although the animals can understand English, the human can't understand them, and so the human characters don't solve the mystery until the very end of the book. That's OK, because the fun of reading this novel is in the wry observations the animals make of their human companions and the corn human companions and the com-plete cluelessness of the humans

plete cluelessness of the humans in the face of the animals' obvious intellectual superiority (if only they could work a can opener).

How believable are the talking animals? Well, after reading Murder, She Meowed, I found myself worrying about the content of my conversations with my cat. Maybe I should be discussing the great books with her, rather than saying, ad nauseam, "You are the best cat, yes you are."

The animal characters are so well-developed, and their dia-

well-developed, and their dia-



logue so character specific, that I found myself wondering just how much Sneaky Pie contributes to the writing. Maybe Rita Mae needs to consider bringing Sneaky Pie on board for her other novels. It couldn't hurt.

Sevenyear itch

by Deborah Peifer

Love or Money by Jackie Calhoun; Naiad, \$10.95

ackie Calhoun's newest, Love or Money, is a novel of obsession masquerading as love, as Calhoun traces a relationship from its giddy first days to its insuitable discrete. inevitable disaster.

Sylvia and Peg are in the seventh year of a relationship that should have ended long ago. When Sylvia discovers Peg in the arms of Lauren, her reaction is arms of Lauren, her reaction is rage and plans for vengeance. At the same time, she uses her considerable skills at manipulation to convince Peg that she cannot leave. Because Peg and Sylvia own property together (without any kind of partnership agreement), leaving the union is more than just a matter of packing a few suitcases.

The premise of Calhoun's novel is so intriguing that I can't novel is so intriguing that I Ean't help wishing she'd spent more time on it. There were moments while reading Love or Money

when I was filled with an exceptionally creepy feeling of deja vu. I have been in a relationship with a woman like Sylvia, and some of the scenes hit painfully close to

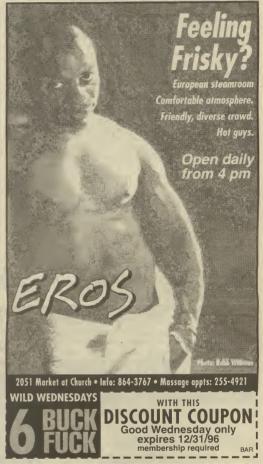
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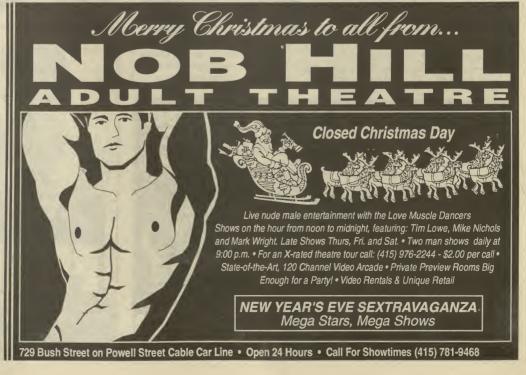
Calhoun plays effectively with time and place, providing flash-backs to the early days of the relationship. What's missing in the novel, however, is depth. The author provides lots of activity, but not enough interior monologues. We need to understand why Peg has such 'difficulty in leaving Sylvia, even if she doesn't know herself.

The result is that the characters

are clueless concerning their moare cluciess contenting their intertivations, and so are the readers. Love or Money is an OK novel, but one that — given the skill Calhoun exhibited in her earlier book, Changes — could have been great.







Dharma dish

by Peggy Bennington

Buddhist Women on the Edge, edited by Marianne Dresser; North Atlantic Books, \$16.95

new book about Buddhism new book about Buddhism in America, Buddhist Women on the Edge, reminds me of a letter from an angry lover. Expressing anger, disappointment and grief at past betrayal, the essays in this book nonetheless express hope that the relationship can be made to fulfill its promise. The 30 women who contributed to this anthology do not reject Riddhism Instead each not reject Buddhism. Instead each seeks to reformulate it in ways that enhance Buddhism's poten-tial to transform women, sexual minorities, people of color, and others who have historically been forced to the far edges of society.

Since Shakyamuni Buddha achieved enlightenment in India 2,500 years ago, his teaching has taken on the flavor of the cultures to which it migrated. Thus the contemplative insight tradition of Buddhism of Burma differs from the pageantry of Tibet and austerity of Zen practice in Japan. Yet each of these cultures has been profoundly patriarchal, and the methods and practices of the Buddhism each country evolved have been almost exclusively the product of male experience. This means that the varieties of Buddhism now in America have been imported by men and express male imagery, language, hierar-chy, and practice. For the first time, however, Buddhism is taking root in a country whose cul-tural underpinnings have been shaken by feminism and critical analysis from the perspective of race, class, gender and sexuality. Now, the authors seem to be asserting, Buddhism has the potential to be asserting. tial to be transformed as American women engage in and shape its possibilities.

Editor Marianne Dresser, a student of Buddhism since 1986, does not posit a monolithic women's Buddhism. Stating that "no single viewpoint could ex-press this rich diversity," she has collected essays from lesbians, African American women, Western Buddhist nuns, beginning practitioners, mothers in heterosexual relationships, scholars, and dharma teachers. The major tra-ditions — Teravada, Tibetan Vajrayana and Zen - are all repre

sented.

Some of these diverse perspectives result in unexpected points of agreement. For example, two scholars, Miranda Shaw and Jan Willis, one white and the other African American, suggest that the ancient tradition of tantra offers a remedy designed to heal deep psychic wounds that have been inflicted upon women and people of color. In tantra, the

practitioner imagines herself with the qualities of a chosen deity who represents an aspect of enlightened essence. Shaw argues that this practice pro-vides an antidote to the de-structive female imagery that pervades our culture and gives women a solid bass for rebuilding self-esteem. Willis rebuilding self-esteem. Willis reminds us that the trauma of slavery still haunts African Americans and concludes that tantra is a tool to get at and heal its negative effects. She suggests that Buddhism "offers us a methodology for physician our confienhancing our confidence

More than one essay ist echoes Buddha's iniunction to see for your

junction to see for your-self and take nothing on faith. Marilyn Senf claims that nothing in Buddhism needs pro-tection from "feminist or any earnest scrutiny in the light of our own experience." Similarly, dhar-ma teacher Tsultrim Allione urges that "women need to become aware of what practices actually work for us, what practices are adapted to our energies and our life situations." In this vein, Kate O'Neill suggests that basic Buddhist practices emphasizing the interrelatedness of all beings can probably be de-emphasized by women since most of us experience the centrality of relation-

Buddhist Women ON THE EDGE Contemporary Perspective from the Western Frontier

ships in our lives. There is humor here, too. Erin Blackwell takes on Zen practice in the face of a breakup. As she puts it, "I never expected to be invited

into the heart of the mystery. Not just because zazen on a zafu in a zendo is a bizarre East-ern ritual and I'm a child of the West, but because Zen is conceptual-ly perfect and I am really a mess. How could my six-feet-one of flesh and blood, my fickle, fiery Celtic selves ever fold themselves up into a face-less human origami and stay that way for half an hour?" Celeste West exe-cutes a tantric flip-flop when the woman her lover is having an affair with arrives at Celeste's workshop at a Buddhist conference. Both writers manage to tackle uni-versal spiritual dilemmas from lesbian-specific experience

These essays provoke thought, laughter, and sometimes tears. Many linger in the mind. Above all, though, these essays are an inspiration to integrate spirituality in all facets of life.

OPERA

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Conservatives ponder gay gene

by Wayne Hoffman

cience and politics make strange bedfellows, and the combination can be lethal. While medical research on the gene" has gotten consider-mileage in the media as a

able mileage in the media as a boon to pro-gay forces, the same research may ultimately prove the trump card for anti-gay forces in a game of life and death.

Chandler Burr argues in the December 16 cover story in the Weekly Standard that while gay groups have thus far used genetics to their advantage, the gay gene ultimately plays into the hands of conservatives. Burr writes in the right-wing political writes in the right-wing political journal that "a conservatism unremittingly hostile to homosexuality ... can and should embrace the gay gene."

Burr accepts as a fait accompli the genetic basis of sexual orien-tation. Despite the vagueness and scarcity of data, the trouble with definitions, and the difficulty replicating results, Burr sees the issue as resolved: homosexuality is a simple, clear-cut, genetically-induced trait akin to left-handedness in its prevalence and political import. Homosexuality — in ness in its prevalence and political import. Homosexuality — in men at least, since research on women yields totally different results — is not a chosen lifestyle, a deviant psychosis, or a socially communicable illness, but rather a hard-wired genetic fact.

Gay organizations have long seen such genetic findings as good news, and put a positive spin on the research in media reports.

"The way in which it's good for gay people is very simple and expenses."

gay people is very simple and ex-tremely powerful," Burr says. "The lies about homosexuals are that people choose to be gay, that it is a lifestyle, that it can be picked up by being exposed to it. The obser-vation that homosexuality is not a choice but is essentially like lefthandedness contradicts every sin-gle one of the anti-gay prejudices that are circulated in homophobic

Brain researcher Simon LeVay agrees that these revelations help pro-gay forces defend against at-tack.

"In a psychological or moral sense, these biological findings have a beneficial effect because they tend to undercut morality," says LeVay. "They reinforce gay people's belief about themselves, that they are a distinct group of people in society. But it's a dou-ble-edged sword, and how it's used depends a lot on how society wants to use it.

wants to use it."

In his article, Burr sees a way in which the sword can be used against gay people. Conservatives, he argues, have been loathe to accept the biological explanation of sexual orientation because it undermines their fundamental arguments that homosexuals have made a choice that they can. made a choice that they can — and should — change. But if they can admit they have been wrong in their nurture-over-nature models, Burr maintains, conserv-

models, Burr maintains, conservatives can move the debate to a more concrete question — If homosexuality is genetic, how can it be "fixed" and eliminated? "If you're an anti-gay conservative, you get this powerful weapon that supports your political philosophy, and you get this really wonderful side benefit



Simon LeVay

which is a biomedical way of potentially exterminating homosexuals," he says.

Burr, author of A Separate Cre-ation: The Search for the Biological Origins of Sexual Orientation, envi-sions a world where pregnant mothers test their fetuses for homosexual genes and abort their gay sons. Gay adults undergo genetic therapy to "correct" their orienta-

therapy to "correct" their orienta-tion. It might sound like science fiction, but for the 70,000 staunch-ly conservative readers of the Week-ly Standard whom Burr addresses, it could sound like progress. And it's not far off, either. LeVay, author of The Sexual Brain and Queer Science, agrees that perhaps within a decade, genetic tests will allow screening of fetus-es for homosexuality. Can "cor-rective" surgery be far behind?

es ior nomosexuality. Can "cor-rective" surgery be far behind? "These things are certainly not long-term, remote things," says LeVay. "Things happen faster than you might imagine."

LeVay explores exactly the sce-nario Burr describes in his up-coming novel, Albrick's Gold, due out in April. In the techno-thriller, a gay man at a fundamentalist university goes to a neuro-surgeon to be "cured" through ge-netic manipulation.

"It tries to point out how things like this might happen," says LeVay, "in a world where homosexuality is thought of as the worst thing that could possibly happen to awa."

what thing that could possibly happen to you."

What Burr describes in the Weekly Standard, however, is not fiction, and that's what makes it so much more frightening. Why extends in Port 1987. much more frightening. Why exactly is Burr, a gay man and self-described moderate conservative, laying out a plan for sexual eugenics to decimate his own community, without raising personal objections? Why is he bringing up the issue in a forum frequently devoted to anti-gay rhetoric? Why does he raise the specter of genetic reeducation and anti-gay abortion — a sort of gay Spanish Inquisition — and present it without objection as a strictly utilitarian, amoral issue? ian, amoral issue?

"It's not that I advocate abortion of homosexual fetuses. It's not that I advocate genetic surgery for people who are gay," he says, although he won't oppose such efforts either. "It's just really interesting. I was interested in giving a political analysis, in making this case as a reporter. It's a piece of reporting. It's descriptive, not prescriptive. I'm not saying it's good or bad. I did not take a position in the piece."

Of course, many readers will argue that by printing a piece explaining and justifying the ways to deploy medical research for antigay genocide in a magazine read by those most likely to do so, Burr has quite firmly taken a position. By hiding behind the illusory veils of "journalism" and "objectivity," of "journalism" and "objectivity,"
Burr strains to avoid his complicity in abetting the Weekly Standard — which is, after all, an explicitly political, deliberately slanted, opinion journal, not a forum for mere descriptive, unbiased reporting.

Despite claims of neutrality, science never operates in a politic.

Despite claims of neutrality, science never operates in a political vacuum. If researchers still often toil in ivory towers without apparent regard for the implications of their work, LeVay says they are at least becoming more careful in how they present their findings once they are complete. And gay people are becoming more careful about how they interpret the findings. The scientific research will continue, but the ball is largely in gay America's court in terms of deciding how to handle the fallout.
"You can't change the fact that biomedical science is going to

"You can't change the fact that biomedical science is going to make these advances and give us these choices," Burr argues. "If that comes about, our best chance as gay people is making people understand that there's nothing wrong with being homosexual. If you tell the truth about homosex-uality, that it is a non-pathologic uality, that it is a non-pathologi-cal, non-chosen, natural minority variant of sexual orientation, then why would people want to abort fetuses? Why would people want

fetuses? Why would people want to perform engineering on themselves? That's the solution."
While Burr makes it sound simple, this biomedical "truth" would have to overcome decades of deep-seated homophobia in each individual, centuries of legally sanctioned persecution, and millennia of anti-homosexual religious dogma. And unfortunately, he doesn't even make this case in his own article. ▼







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PHOTOGRAPHY

Little beauty



by John Karr

B lake Little's coffee-table photo book, Dichotomy, from State of Man's high-toned Colt Studios, doesn't really break new ground in the crowded field of beefcake photo books. Little's intention is novel, but, ultimately, defeating. He juxtaposes his models with strange props and drops them into sparse settings, so that, to quote Little, "the image will unravel and beauty will reveal itself." Unfortunately it isn't clear how Little hopes to free beauty by obfuscating it. Ultimately, the photographer's aloof emotional stance and alienating philosophical precept leave little ground for commitment. There are a few interesting body abstractions here—the nape of neck, the sole of a foot — but the majority of Little's images are so calculated in their neutrality they become irrelevant. ▼







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Queer shorts at Sundance '97

by Jenni Olson/PopcornQ

he Sundance Film Festival announced its 1997 lineup of short films last week, and among the 55 titles listed are at least a dozen of interest to queer viewers. The festival takes place in Park City, Utah from January 16th to the 26th.

Sundance has a reputation as one of the best showcases for short films, and shorts programmer John Cooper says that with 1,300 shorts submitted this year the festival has had a much more rigorous selection process than in years past. "Each film had to really prove itself," he commented in a recent phone interview. Reflecting on this year's gay and lesbian shorts, Cooper, who also programs the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, describes the class of 1997 as "more interesting and a little wilder."

Ever since Paigua and Paris is

Ever since Poison and Paris is Burning burst on the scene at Sundance back in 1991, the festival has been a hot place to spot rising queer talents. And the shorts program is seen as a place that nurtures those talents. "We're looking to give a chance to a new Todd Haynes," says Cooper. "We want to get [the short filmmakers] in a place where they can meet people who will accept them as filmmakers and get their [feature] films made."

This list of short films of queer interest by queer filmmakers include: Gus Van Sant's music video



Gus Van Sant

of Allen Ginsberg's Ballad of the Skeletons; Jason Gould's Inside Out, the story of the son of two famous actors who is outed by a supermarket tabloid (the cast includes Gould's real-life father, Elliott); a profile of author Dorothy Allison, Two or Three Things But Nothing for Sure, by former San Franciscans Tina DiFeliciantonio and Jane Wagner; Bay Area filmmaker Wendy Levy's charming tale of lesbian artificial insemination, Swim, Swim; Greg Sax's chilling yet hilarious reflection on coming of age in the AIDS era, 27; former San Franciscan Trac Vu's recollection of his Southern California youth, First Year, Tommy

O'Haver's Happy Hour, Boot Camp from John Scott Matthews; James Duesing's computer-animated Law of Averages, Sometimes My Feet Go Numb by San Francisco filmmaker Lourdes Portillo; Jessica Yu's date movie, Better Late; and My Pretty Little Girlfriend by Jennifer Gentile. ▼

For all the latest queer movie news, check out the PopcornQ website at http://www.popcornq.com. You can find more details about Sundance at the official festival website, (http://www.cybermart.com/sundance/institute/1997.html).



The cover of Batman Collected

Batman

◄ page **37**

"belly band" obscured the book's title. "He was pretty vocal about not liking it. He was on the Howard Stern Show, and when Howard said 'What a great jacket,' Boy said 'Aye don't like it at all." Kidd says, imitating the singer's British lilt.

Ironically, Kidd had a far better working relationship with Stern on his second book, Miss America. "I'm a fan, You have to be with someone that opinionated," he says fondly. Kidd particularly admires Stern's infamous lesbian stunt on the Tonight

Show. "That two women kissing [on the show] could cause such a scandal is indicative of how backward things still are regarding gay issues. His antics are sensational, but they really make a statement."

but they really make a statement."
When it comes to making personal statements of his own, however, Kidd is considerably more circumspect. "It's a swell way to trivialize a relationship, by talking about it in print," he says. "I think sexuality can be a private thing, if you want it to be." Clearly not interested in being provocative, Kidd does reveal that things are going well in the romance department and may even be long-term.

ment and may even be long-term.
In general, Kidd views his sexual identity as a nonissue, at least from a professional perspective.
"Being gay in publishing is like being gay in the interior design business," he says. "It's not a big deal." He applies the same sentiment to the visual arts and design. "I don't look at art that way. The only art where sexuality is an issue would be pornography, and I think pornography is great. But the way I feel about art in general is that it should be taken at face value, not based on sexual orientation.

based on sexual orientation.

"It drives me nuts when people tell me they want a book to look gay," the designer continues.
"I get really tired of hearing about it. Certain writers I design for are gay people, but I don't design anything because of my orientation." That, he affirms, goes for everything, Batman included. ▼

Batman Collected (\$50) is published by Bullfinch Press/Little, Brown and Company and is available at bookstores throughout San Francisco.



Deborah Harry

Arts cover

revealed she's been reading Jeannette Winterson and is still just looking to have a good time.

You've been able to carve a place for yourself as a pop star, actress and icon.

Oddly enough, I can't claim to have planned it like this, but it's evolved this way. I'm not sure whether it's because of my own eccentricity, but I've been able to position myself to have one foot in the art world, and one foot in the commercial world. I've gotten involved in some exciting projects that way. I've been able to take new forms of music or expression and make them more available to bigger markets.

You've also managed to consistently stay in the public eye.

I haven't really had a high profile, and haven't been a mega-star, but I've certainly been around. People still recognize me. That's very nice.

You're playing a gay club on New Year's Eve. You've never seemed like the typical gay icon to me.

I guess they're just desperate for a diva, and here I am.

Are you a diva?

No. Last year I played a gay club in New Orleans. It was so fantastic. I had this dress made by Michael Schmidt, who does the Squeezebox club in New York, and did all that chain-mail stuff for Tina Turner and Cher. He made this dress for me out of three thousand double-edge razor blades.

Could you move in it?

Of course! Carefully, very carefully. The odd thing was that everyone was still touching me, and running their hands up and down the dress. I kept thinking, "Oh my god, someone's going to get cut." It was pretty wild. I don't think I'll be wearing that this year.

What will you be wearing?

I haven't got it mapped out yet. I don't think I'll be wearing metal, metal was last year. Maybe I'll wear something more fetish. You think fetish is good?

Sure. In this town that always works. What's your connection to the fashion world?

I used to live with Stephen Sprouse, and he brainwashed me at a crucial point because I used to wear terrible things like cowboy boots with 1940s cocktail dresses. It was really tacky. Stephen sort of organized me and made me more conscious about what to wear. Of course at that point I had no budget, so he was a real saint. He used to dress me, and then later on he designed stuff and created the Blondie look. He taught me a lot. I don't know that it's ever been quite as well-organized as when I was working with him, but it's gone through various stages since then.

What are you working on these days?

I've been working with the original members of Blondie — Chris Stein, Jimmy Destri, Clem Burke, and Gary Valentine. We're writing material, getting ready to record. We'll see what we can do with it.

What are the songs like?

I'm never good at classifying things like that. I think it sounds like Blondie, but it's today.

What else have you been up to musically?

I did the record with The Heads and played some shows with them. It was so much fun, really great performing with them. We're just old friends, so there's this really nice feeling. Pumpkins' version of "Dreaming"?

It's okay. I've always done covers of other people's material. I've always thought it's very flattering when someone wants to cover a song of yours.

What will you be performing on New Year's Eve?

I'm gonna be doing Deb's greatest hits (laughs). I love New Year's Eve and performing on New Year's Eve. The audiences are

At one time I was nervous and didn't have much fun as a performer. Now I have all the things I've worked for as an actor and singer.

You've also been playing with Jazz Passenger. What's on that album?

Mostly original stuff, some cover material, a duet with Elvis Costello and myself, and a track that Elvis sings alone, some instrumentals. We just came back from Poland and Greece and Paris and London. We did some really satisfying shows here at the Knitting Factory recently. I love performing with them. We're going to have a hiatus when I work on Six Ways to Sunday, a movie that starts shooting in January.

You have a role in Copland, the new Stallone film. Did you work much with Sly?

Just a little bit, luckily (laughs devilishly). He's very nice, I really like him a lot. When you think about the fact that he wrote *Rocky*, you realize he's a pretty smart cookie.

Do you enjoy being on stage?

I love it. It's what I've worked for, to enjoy it. At one time I was very nervous and I didn't have as much fun. Now I have all the things I've worked for as a performer, actor and singer. God knows if they are going to get any better than they are now, but I'm certainly at a point where they've all come together, and I really enjoy myself. I even enjoy the fuck-ups. If I goof, I make something out of it.

What is it about Blondie songs that make them so enduring? Every year there seems to be a new remix album.

(Moans) I think that's going to stop. As part of the record company's marketing thing — and the industry in general — they just wait a certain period of time and they rehash the shit, throw it back out there. They figure there's a regeneration of interest after a certain period of time. That's the way the industry is set up. Audiences have been programmed to accept this recycling.

this period of thine. That's new ay the industry is set up. Audiences have been programmed to accept this recycling.

Still, Blondie songs are well-crafted. Chris Stein in particular spends a lot of time working on a song. He really composes things carefully. He thinks about how one section will flow into another and be lyrical and move and lift and fall. He really works hard on his songs. It does pay off, it's not like a three-chord thing that is just bashed out, it's something that brings an emotional response from people and becomes a part of their life. So the songs do recur, they do come back.

What do you think of the Smashing

always ready to go, so there's a party atmosphere. I'm looking to have good time myself.

Any New Year's wishes for the world?

Oh, I dunno. We should all just move on into the big time. Whooo, see ya. ▼

Deborah Harry will be at Club Universe & Pleasuredome, 177 Townsend Street, on New Year's Eve, December 31st. Advance tickets (\$25) are available by calling the Club Townsend box office at (415) 974-6020. Tickets are \$30 at the door, if available. For more information, call 985-5256.



"I used to wear terrible things, like cowboy boots with 1940s dresses.



December 24 • Closed @ 1 PM
December 25 • Closed
December 31 • Closed @ 1 PM
January 1 • Closed

AD DEADLINES CLASSIFIED PERSONALS DISPLAY

CHRISTMAS ISSUE Dec. 20 • NOON NEW YEARS ISSUE Dec. 27 • NOON

Happy Holidays

Calendare



Jews at Xmas

rap your mind around it: some of us don't celebrate Christmas. Most Jews are just not that big on Christian holidays. Every year on the sacred day, my family would go out for Chinese food, since every other restaurant in America was closed, then we'd go to the movies. Watching the latest Christmas release with a theatre full of Jewfolk sure beat getting bombarded with car-ols about the baby Jesus. In much the same spirit, comedian Lisa Geduldig is for the fourth Christ-

This accuracy is not the fourth Christ-mas season presenting An Evening of Kung Pao Kosher Comedy. It's a simple idea, but inspired: a line-up of Jewish entertainers schmaltzing it up for a dinner show at a Chinese restaurant. This year's performers are Sherry Glaser, Josh Kornbluth, and "America's Glasel, Josh Rotherland Hardress and Favorite dragapella beautyshop quartet," the Kinsey Sicks. Mistress of Ceremonies Geduldig promises Jewish yuk-yuks, yummy (non-Kosher) Chinese food, and fortune cookies filled with Yiddish proverbs. Reason enough to schlep to Chinatown.

I attended one of these meshugana I attended one of these meshugana events a few years back, when it had been overbooked, and it was like a nightmare from Hebrew School: a restaurant full of ravenous Jews scrambling to get at the chicken chow mein. Since then, the organizers have wised up, moved their shrick to a wised up, moved their shtick to a roomier place, and scheduled six shows on three days: a 6 p.m. dinner show (\$40) and a 9:30 p.m. cocktail show (\$25) on Dec. 23 ("Erev Christmas Eve"), Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve), and Dec. 25 (Christ Child Day) at Hunan Restaurant, 924 Sansome, Partial proceeds benefit Jewish Family & Children's Services AIDS Project, and the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission. Better call ahead for tickets, some shows are already sold out: (510) 762-BASS. Oy vey, it's a date. ▼

Correction

The photographer featured in last week's Calendare is Steve, not Scott, Thompson. Gotta stop hitting that Merlot in the water-cooler



Christmas

Comedy Club Improvised holiday comedy by the Pros From Dover. Fri. & Sat. thru 12/21. \$5. 8pm. Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy 673-3847.

The Confessions of

Madame Psyche
Story of Mei-Li in the early
days of SF. Wed.-Sun. thru
12/22 at 8:30pm; call for
matinees. \$15. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason.
441-8822.

Conversations With Aunt Martha

Charles Blackburn's solo per-formance as the President of the Grandmothers From Hell Society. Fri. & Sat. thru

12/21 at 8pm. \$12. EXIT Stage Left, 156 Eddy. 566-9763.

MACT Holiday Party Men of All Colors Together party, gift exchange, no-host bar. RSVP for location. 8pm. 675-0201.

1996: What a Joke! Comics Tom Ammiano and Karen Ripley review 1996 with a political slant. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Noh Christmas Carol Theatre of Yugen's adaptation of Dickens' story opens. Thru 12/22, call for times. \$17. Mountain View Center for Perf. Arts, Castro & Mercy Mountain View. 903-6000

Now What?

A Traveling Jewish Theatre presents improvisations by Corey Fischer and Nina Wise.

Thurs.-Sun. at 8pm thru 12/21. \$15. ATJT, 2800 Mariposa. 399-1809.

Nude Before Christmas

Homoerotic paintings and drawings by Rick Herold, thru 12/21. Naked Art Gallery, 355 Bryant, Loft 110. 284-0567.

Nutcracker

Oakland Ballet, Oakland East Bay Symphony in holiday classic. \$6-36. Thru 12/29, call for dates. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. 776-1999.

Outlook Video

Monthly gay and lesbian news/entertainment video magazine. 5:30pm. Cable Channel 53.

Pulp Nellie

The Nellie Olesons in twisted sketch comedy. Wed.-Sun. thru 12/21 at 8pm. \$12. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Slanted Vision

Ming-Yuen S. Ma's documen tary inspired by gay porn, kung fu movies and cooking shows. \$5. 8pm. ATA, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

A Tuna Christmas

Sequel to "Greater Tuna" stars Joe Sears, Jaston Williams. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/22. Call for times, prices. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter. 771-6900.

Vanities

Helinew gay version of Jack Heifner's comedy: lives of three Texan football players. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/21, call for times. \$16-20. Tonight at 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

WritersCorp

Reading poetry and fiction: Alegria Barclay, Elizabeth Chavez, more. \$3-5. 7:30pm 848 Community Space, 848

Divisadero, 252-4655.

You Don't Look

You Don't Look Mexican A young lesbian Latina exam-ines her identity in Julie Padilla's one-woman play. Mon., Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 12/29. \$10. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 267-4895.



Babes in Toyland

Cocktail Party benefit for UCSF Pediatric AIDS/HIV Treatment Ctr. Open bar, food, entertainment by Billy DeHerrera. \$15. 8pm. 177 Townsend. 974-1156.

Big Deal

Silkscreen artist Jim Winters unveils new large portraits, by appointment thru 1/1. Showroom, 442A Haight. 487-9440.

Body Positive

Potluck for social group for positive gay men. 7:30pm. Call for location. 241-1579.

Gay Comedy Night

Danny Williams, Bridget Schwartz, David Mills. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Leon

Open studio, drawings, prints, more. Sat. & Sun. 11am-3pm. 4623 18th St.

Mele Kelikimaka

Xmas celebration, buffet. Do-nations for AIDS Memorial Grove. Doors 8pm, show 10pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

New Experimental Works

Other Cinema screens formally innovative film and video shorts. \$5. 8:30pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

The Nutmeg Project

Robert Henry Johnson Dance Company's urban, multiculti take on the Nutcracker. Sat. at 7:30pm, Sun. at 2 & 7:30pm. \$12-20. Theater Ar-taud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie

The Dance Brigade presents
10th annual (and last)
dance/theatre extravaganza.
Sat. at 2 & 8pm, Sun. at 2 &
7pm, \$16. Scottish Rite Theatre, 1547 Lakeside, Oakland. (510) 652-0752.

Bear Country Christmas

Live music and entertainment. \$6. 4-8pm. Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison.

Cami Thompson

Vocalist, accompanied by Si Perkoff on piano and bass. 7-11pm. Alta Plaza, 2301 Fill-more. 922-1444.

GAWK

Gay Artists and Writers' Kollective seeks video editors, guitar players, publishers. Sundays at 3pm. Location, info: 731-2424.

Holiday Hike

Marin Bay Area Career Women take a hike. \$3. Call for location. 954-8804.

Pacific Brass Quintet

Concert of festive music from Renaissance England, Italy and Germany. \$9. 4pm. Old First Church, Van Ness and Sacramento. 474-1608.

Ruby's Rated X-mas

Kubstitute Kollective & Ruby Toosday's "Happy birthday, Jesus" party, Trauma Flint-stone, La Lupe Sativa, Cock-atelia, Heklina, more. Doors 9:30pm. \$4 before 10:30pm, \$6 after, Cat's Grill, 683 Clementina.

Clementina. 331-1500 ext. DIET.

Yoong Bae

Paintings and prints by Kore-an-born modernist artist. Wed.-Sun. thru 4/20. \$6. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

· Lon

Appropriated Emotion

Art by Diane Fenster and Miles Stryker. Mon.-Sat. thru 12/31. Gallery 16, 1616 16th St. 626-7495.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone, MC Karen Ripley. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Jim Leff

Yuletide at the Lone Star," a showing of seasonal paintings, thru 12/23. Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison. 431-7662.



An Oud, or North African lute, made of wood and ivory inlay, from Kuwait, is part of Musical Instruments from Around the World in the Transamerica Pyramid. See listing on Monday.



Kung Pao Kosher

n-Star

by Si

s' Kol-

Call ntet

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sign up ipley.

Comedy Comedy
Jewish comedy in a Chinese
restaurant: that's Xmas!
Sherry Glaser, Josh Kornbluth, dragapella beautyshop
quartet Kinsey Sicks, MC
Lisa Geduldig. Mon.-Wed.,
6pm (dinner show, \$40),
9:30pm (cocktail show, \$25).
Hunan Restaurant, 924 Sansome. (510) 762-BASS.

Musical Instruments

"From Around the World," exhibit: a Kuwaiti oud, an Angolan sanza cokwe, a Vietnamese dan tranh, more. Mon.-Fri. thru 12/27. Transamerica Pyramid lobby, 600 Montgomery. 983-4000.

Seth Montfort Pianist performs complete Piano Music for Christmas by Franz Liszt. \$5. 7pm. Star

Classics Recital Hall, 425 Hayes. 552-1110.

Steve Thompson Photographs inspired by SF-MOMA, thru Dec. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Bridges

"A Collaborative Project,"
115th Annual Exhibition, in-cludes Ann Chamberlain, Ian Pollock & Janet Silk, more. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/12. Wal-ter/McBean Gallery, SFAI, 800 Chestnut. 749-4545.

Candlelight Services Festival Choir in Christmas Eve Holy Communion service. 7, 9&11pm. MCC/SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

A Christmas Carol

A.C.T.'s production of Charles Dickens' tale: Scrooge and Tiny Tim. Tues.-Sat. thru 12/26 (no Xmas perf). \$19-47.50. Tonight at 7:30pm. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

"Honoring Opera's Legendary Women" exhibition of docu-mentary photos, sculpture and paintings of great prima don-nas. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/11. Terrain, 165 Jessie. 543-0656.

Hall of Fame Hall of Fame

Exhibition of art and artifacts from over 50 halls of fame, thru 2/23. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Home for the Holidays San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus in holiday concert. \$10. 5, 7&9pm. Castro The-atre, Castro & Market. 392-4400.

James Stagg Oil paintings in exaggerated perspective, thru 1/12. Michael Thompson Gallery, 1 Sutter. 391-7795.

QTV Gay and lesbian programming. Tues. at 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284.

Sappho-"No Ordinary Housewife," a multimedia installation em-bracing Sappho's creative ge-nius. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/31. Braval women's bookstore, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. 369-3335.

Suburbia

Vintage photographs by Bill Owens. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/25. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

led

Beach Blanket

Babylon Musical revue's holiday ex-travaganza shows, call for seasonal schedule. \$18-45. Xmas at 8pm. Club Fugazi, 678 Green. 421-4222.

Christmas Worship Lesbigay fellowship cele-brates: 11am service, Noon potluck. MCC/SF, 150 Eure-ka. 863-4434

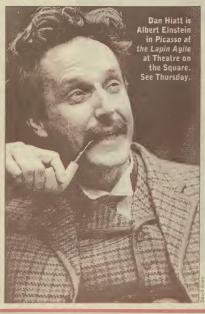
Funny Girl Debbie Gibson plays Fanny Brice in the Broadway musi-cal, thru 1/12, call for dates. \$34-\$62.50. 8pm. Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor. 776-1999.

Party Party
David Dillon's comedy: seven
gay friends play "Facts and
Fantasies." Wed.-Sun. extended thru 1/5, call for
times. \$20-25. Xmas at 8pm.
Cable Car Theatre, 430
Mason. 956-8497.

Too Jewish for Christmas?

Docent-led tours of "Too Jew-ish? Challenging Traditional Identities" exhibit. \$5, 10am-6pm. Jewish Museum SF, 121 Steuart. 543-8880 x220.

Beneath the Surface Group show, paintings, sculp-ture, photography and works on paper, features Astrid, Suzanne Benton, Jeffrey Ketcham, more. By appoint-ment thru 4/19. ArtHaus, 1053 Bush. 922-8219.



Historical Paintings

"Of the Great Battle of San Francisco: New Work" by Sandow Birk, thru 1/18. Catharine Clark Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

Jesse Allen Paintings and prints of imaginary landscapes. Thru 1/4. Vorpal Gallery, 393 Grove.

397-9200. Joking the Chicken

Marga Gomez with old and new material, plus squishy puppets. Opening night. \$12. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933. Katharina Fritsch

Survey of works by German sculptor. Thru 3/9. SFM0-MA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Kwanzaa Celebration Lesbians and Gays of African Descent, and the African-American and Gay and Les-bian Centers host 5th annual Kwanzaa party, free. 5:30pm. New Main Library, Market & Grove. (510) 534-4492.

Nervous Laughter

Holiday comedy sketches: eggnog, family tensions, alco-holism. Thurs.-Sat. thru 12/28 at 8:30pm. \$8-12. Marsh Theater, 1062 Valencia.

Picasso at

Picasso at the Lapin Agile Steve Martin's comedy fea-turing the NY cast. Tues.-Sun., extended thru 2/16. Tonight at 8pm, call for times. \$25-38. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

Souvenirs of Savings: "Miniature Bank Buildings from the Collection of Ace Ar-chitects" exhibit. Thru 2/25. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Roberto Friedman Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

Christmas Dinner Specials

ROAST DUCK A L'ORANGE with apple-ginger dressing, orange-brandy sauce, fresh vegetable and chef's rice or mashed potatoes..10.95

OVEN-ROAST BREAST OF TURKEY or HONEY-BAKED HAM with apple dressing, yams, mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetable, cranberry sauce .10.95

GRILLED ATLANTIC SALMON with lemon-dill sauce, fresh vegetable ragout and chef's rice or potatoes....10.95

PRIME RIB AU JUS with baked potato and creamy horseradish.....10.95

Patio Cafe
531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th
Breakfast/Lunch served from 8:00 AM
Dinner from 5:00 PM nightly







4084 18th St. (2nd LEVEL) 11AM - 7PM Monday - Saturday











Thanks for the memories - part one

by Mister Marcus

The Year of the Rat (Lunar Calendar Year 4694)

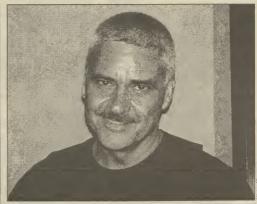
– 1996 for the rest of us – will come to an end in just 12 days. For the leather community, it was a fun and exciting year, with all our bike clubs, title holders and the community-at-large being generous and supporting almost all the fundraising events. While I couldn't possibly review every event, the most notable, and yes, profitable ones, are recapped here in case you forgot or couldn't make it.

January

Dreams of erotic lust and marriage vanished into thin air for scores of hopefuls when "every-body's favorite bartender" Nick Varetakis at the Eagle abruptly an-nounced that he was getting mar-ried and moved to Nashville on Jan. 2! If you *really* love him, you'll be glad to know Nick is happy, working and raising horses. Fun guy Andy Anderson emceed the Mr. January Bare Chest Contest, and Felix Novy

won the spot. Felix is living in LA now. During a blizzardy weekend, Mauro Montoya of San Juan, P.R., won the Mr. Mid-Atlantic

Leather title in Washington, D.C. Mauro now lives in Albuquerque, but will be in the capital next month for his stepping down. The triumvirate of dyke daddies (Skeeter, B.C. and Jo), who designated themselves caretakers of the title for 1995, passed the sashes to Dyke Mommy Beth Elliott of Oakland and Charlene "KoKo" as Dyke Daddy. The event was coemceed by Mr. and Ms. Southbay Leather Kevin Roche and Miranda von Stockhausen during a tor-rential rainstorm. Joey Faria won the Feb. '97 spot on the Bare Chest Calendar. The Dallas Cow-girls won Super Bowl XXX, and lots of us lost big \$ betting on the



Here he is! The 1996 Mr. Silver Fox, Lee Julien, was chosen two weeks ago at Daddy's. Lee is in the real estate business and has close ties to the Andora Inn in the Mission.

Steelers! Bobby Bentley won the Mr. ETVC title, and Valerie Genelo won the Ms. equivalent. The Litter Box dance club pre-miered, but where is it now?!

February

Cal Eagles MC cele-brated its 12th anniver-sary, with Peter Haase re-elected president, Terry Kerich the new VP, and Alden Spafford the road captain. Bears of SF staged a

Bears of SF staged a very successful Bear Rendezvous '96 weekend, and Steve Blanscet of Long Beach won the International Mr. Bear '96 title. Mr. Lurch wrecked the audience with his Beach Blanket Babylon big hat! Hard-working Randy Wright of Fremont won the Mr. March spot on the BCC. Former Mr. Drummer Brian Dawson and Miranda von Stockhausen were announced von Stockhausen were announced as the co-emcees for the Mr. SF Leather Contest (in April). On Valentine's Day, Leather Daddy Cornelius Conboy staged a successful "Some Enchanted Evening," at the now defunct Eichelberger's to benefit the Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage

Project. Tom Powers won the April '97 spot on the BCC. Doug Stromberg was elected president of the Constantines. The 15 Association celebrated its 15th birthciation celebrated its 15th birth-day with a great banquet at the Cliff Housel Audrey Joseph won Woman of the Year at the ICF Motorcycle Awards. Jason Fontaine won the Frank Benoit Memorial award, and much to his surprise, Alden Spafford was named Rider of the Year. After ennamed Rider of the Year. After en-during a particularly vicious cam-paign (especially for the emperor title), Steve Vallone and Cock-atielia emerged victorious as emperor and empress.

March

March
San Diego's leather community
resigned from the National
Leather Association, citing lack of
guidance, leadership and fiscal responsibility, and renamed themselves Club X, with a very, very
successful Leatherfest weekend.
That darling Juan Carlos won the
May '97 spot on the BCC, and
later, a barely out Atlanta physician, Stuart Kloda, won the June
spot, Gary Virginia won the first spot. Gary Virginia won the first Daddy's Bar Mr. Leather title, and Daddy's Bar Mr. Leather title, and the very next night, Joe Piazza won the Mr. SF-Eagle Leather title. In Seattle, Vince Sharkey won the Mr. Washington State Leather title, and Scott "Boomer" Carlson won the July '97 BCC spot. Gary Strickland won the Mr. Edge Leather '96 title. Skeeter Wildman won a Cable Car Award for outstanding. Cable Car Award for outstanding contributions to the women's community, and Russell Kassman won Man of the Year.

The Castro Station got into the leather title game and staged a Mr. Castro Station Leather contest; Bart Bartholomew emerged the winner. Joe Gallagher won the Mr. New York Leather title, and on the same night, Michael Shewan was chosen Mr. Los Angels Leather. chosen Mr. Los Angeles Leather. At this particular event, the philosophy of "Give me a title holder losophy of "Give me a title holder that makes my dick hard!" emerged, launching new thought on the role(s) of leather icons. The discussion of this issue continues as we approach IML '97!

In a new venue, the Alcazar Theatre, Daddy's Gary Virginia took the Mr. SF Leather title. The

1996 Peter Austin Award was given to a very surprised Audrey Joseph, adding yet another accolade to her record. Across the national above the surprised surp tion, leather contests were in high



Toronto leather triumph on Nov. 30 (I to r): IML Joe Gallagher, Mr. Toronto Leather '97 Robert Tomas, Toronto Leather '96 Duncan MacLachlan, and second runner-up and Leather Fellowship '97 winner Dave Ewles. First runner-up Rich Kaczmarek is kneeling in front.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, Dec. 19

Constantines MC beer bust, 2000-2300, at Daddy's. Only \$4 if you bring a non-stuffed toy; otherwise, it's \$6. Have your photo taken with Santa for \$2 to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. Sit on Santa at The Edge, 2000-2300. Danny Williams will play Santa, and both good boys and girls and bad boys and girls can sit on his face!

Free STD screening, 2000-2200, upstairs at 933 Harrison. Sponsored by Blow Buddies and City Clinic.

733 Harrison. Sponsored by Blow Buddles and City Clinic.

The annual Christmas party at the SF-Eagle, 2000-2200, with their usual fabulous buffet and much conviviality. Everybody who's anybody will be there!

Friday, Dec. 20

Knights of Malta MC beer bust at Daddy's, 2000-2300. It's \$6 but you can get in for \$5 with a non-stuffed toy for children 12 and under. Blow Buddies and the AIDS Health Project are offering free and anonymous HIV testing, counseling and education from 2200 until half-past midnight upstairs at 933 Harrison. Open to everyone!

Saturday, Dec. 21

Bears of San Francisco beer bust at the Lone Star Saloon to benefit SF Fire Department's Toys for Tots. Free raffle tickets for donation of new toys and have your photo taken with Santa.

"Babes in Toyland" benefit cocktail party for UCSF Pediatric AIDS/HIV Treatment Center at Pleasuredome (177 Townsend), 2000-2300, \$15 at the door, open bar, food, celebrity bartenders and entertainment. One hundred percent of the proceeds go to the beneficiary.

The magnificent art of Leon (Marfells) is on display at his open studio (4623 18th St.), 1100-1600, and tomorrow as well, same hours. Don't miss this opportunity to buy some of this art guaranteed to turn on almost everyone.

Sunday, Dec. 22

Bear Country Christmas Party at the Lone Star Saloon with live music and snacks. Lots of snacks. This is, after all, a b-e-a-r event!

Wednesday, Dec. 25

The Lone Star Saloon's annual Christmas party begins at 1700, with lots of great food by Dennis "Rutabagas and Risotto" Tyler – you know, the one La Lips is always touting!

Saturday, Dec. 28

The 15 Association's monthly play party at the usual place and time. You must accompany your guest(s). BYOB. Other amenities furnished. Call 673-0452 for invitation and location. More next week with New Year's Eve parties galore!

gear everywhere, except in San Diego where they "just couldn't get it together!" In early April it was officially announced that the Master of Microphones, Frank Nowicki, would emcee the IML contest. Outdoorsman Lynn Mc-Cameron won the August spot on the '97 BCC, and Mike Wieland of San Diego won the September spot. The SMMILE board and the Mr. Drummer committee were already hard at work gearing up for September's Leather Pride Week.

The selection of the 11 regional Mr. Drummer contestants got under way the second week of May, with Don Woods taking the Gulf Coast Drummer title in Dallas. The event was sponsored by Johnny Grey of Shades of Grey Leathers, his seventh year as sponsor. Shades of Grey has been temporarily closed by Dallas authorities for selling cock rings! When will those rednecks get a life? Thousands flocked to Chicago for Intl. Mr. Leather 1996 and the hundreds of parties. Two of the best were the New York contingent's and Toronto's Maple Leaf Party. Larry Everett's "roast" was like an off-Broadway production, and finally, a New Yorker won it – Joe Gallagher by a wide margin. Gulf Coast Drummer title in Dal-Joe Gallagher by a wide margin. The first runner-up was Mark Norton of KC, MO (now in Arlington, Va.), and the second run-ner-up was Antonio Sanchez of Madrid. Great weekend! Three nights before the IML contest, SF's Daniel Sonnenfeld won the SF's Daniel Sonnenfeld won the Intl. Mr. Deaf Leather title along with Cool Cat of Chicago, the new Intl. Ms. Deaf Leather. Mike Rand won the October '97 BCC spot, and John Edwards became Mr. November. George Whiting was selected Sacramento Drummer Roy but didn's bether to come along. Boy but didn't bother to come to SF for the finals. Sharon McNight swooped into town the last weekend of the month for a smashing show at the Plush Room.

Gay pride parades all over the nation, with San Francisco's having the longest PC title ever. Lots of fundraising for the Leather Pride Float, which boasted a winning design. The Phoenix Uniform Club's Uniform Ball was deemed a smashing success with record attendance. Parade specta-tors were thrilled by the Cheer Dallas group, who won a Cable Car Award for their efforts. Stunningly handsome Alex Hill won



One of the magnificent sculptures of newcomer Wayne Kern hangs at his show at Daddy's through

the final spot of December on the BCC. Proceeds from Mr. SF Leather contest (\$4000) were presented to the AIDS Emergency Fund. Nasty treatment from Fife's management at the RushRiv for those who attended the GDI's weekend run. Beth Downey won the Ms. Golden Gate Leather title, and the Phoenix Uniform club's 19th anniversary was great. Blow Buddies added Underwear Parties and Golden Shower Parties to their repertoire, not to mention HIV and STD anonymous testing. Great community interaction, Brad! Michael Wieland won the cover spot on the BCC, and it was a three-way tie for the runner-up for the back cover (Mike Rand, Juan Carlos and Lynn Mc-Cameron). Atlanta's Leatherfest in mid-June was a smashing success. Morgana and Michael won the Intl. Mr./Mrs. Slave titles, and Bob Jacobs succeeded Rico Ware as Mr. Southeast Drummer. Next weekend, Rick Noss took the Desert/Plains Drummer title in Desert/Plains Drummer title in Omaha. Eric Keith won the Mr. Alameda Co. Drummer title, and Todd Kepus was named the Drummer Boy. In San Francisco, "Taurus" Webster won the SF Drummer title, and Jon Ayres was chosen SF Drummer Boy. It was a rousing month! Next week: Thanks for the memories – part II.

'Tis the season

'Tis the season to be jolly they say. Last week was chock-full of private Christmas parties and more are on the way. The Castro community Christmas tree is up community Christmas tree is up and glowing. BCC guys were autographing/selling the calendar at Auto Erotica. Bike clubs and individuals were celebrating with parties and holiday events. Shoppers were running amok all over town, and the 49ers 50th anniversary party on Monday night at the Civic Auditorium saw Da Mayor eating crow! GGG Prez Andy Rose took off with his corresponding secretary. Sam Medrano, for Fort secretary, Sam Medrano, for Fort Lauderdale just to be "getting away," when they should have gone to Orlando for the first of two Mr./Ms. Florida Leather contests.

As it turned out in Orlando, al-though lots of people boycotted Spencer Osborne's event, Stephanie Hughes was named Ms. Florida Leather on Friday night over two other contestants. On Saturday, Ty Nolan took the male title, and Gregory Kornman was chosen Florida Leather Boy. The only major leather title holder present was IMs. J jill Carter. Stephanie will compete at IMs.L (unlike Denise who won twice tunlike Denise who won twice and didn't bother to compete at IMs.L); Ty will compete at IML in May, and Gregory (if his master allows it) will compete at the American Leather Boy contest in D.C. in July. Frank Nowicki emceed the events, and Shan Carr entertained at both. I'll have pho-

entertained at both. I'll have photos for you if Dennis from the Triangle News sends them.

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, both the LAPD and the ABC have unleashed a vicious attack on (mostly leather) bars! They finally got a 22-bar group going to fight the harassment – something gays and lesbians in San Francisco did way back in the '60s!

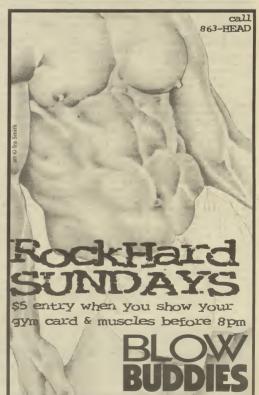
If the bar owners would concentrate on unity and harmony instead of calling officials when their competition is doing better

instead of calling officials when their competition is doing better than them, this mess would stop. Still, seasoned observers in Los Angeles state that "there are instances of guys having sex in cars around the bars and in doorways and alleys," prompting complaints from neighbors. The LAPD and the Alcoholic Beverage Control officials are notorious for harassing the gay bars there. That is one of the reasons I moved up here in the '60s. So remember, if you visit the City of Angels, make sure the City of Angels, make sure you're on your best behavior! ▼









BARTALK



1.900.844.2227

Only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!

PARTING GLANCES

Jay 11/1 Powerhouse
Met you @ Powerhouse on Fri night.
Me: 32, Asian, 5'11", smooth,
leather, You: full leather, short blond
hair, Harley Davidson T-shirt, hanging out w/Asian guy. Asked me about
3-way. Would love a 2-way. Pis call.

☑ 3901.

Lone Star- Sun Night 11/24
You: brown hair, goatee, jacket, Beatles T-shirt, a smile that stops traffic.
Me: brown hair, black shirt, beard, boots, hoping I can make that smile reappear. Let's see-call me.

3902.

Eros Sun 11/17 Lou
We exchanged #'s. I lost yours. I
keep thinking of your intricate tattoos, your arms around me would love
to touch you again. Leo. 12 3903.

New Orleans Baid Guy In Town
We met Nov. 25 GPM at F-Market &
you wiked down Battery St., carrying
sunflowers. Kick back! I want to worship you. Ride me? Of course!
22
3904.

Muni Between Church & Powell You cute, olive cap, jacket. Me: burgundy/black coat, black spiked hair. We exchanged glances then long looks. Would like to meet you, friends? Definite electricity between us. ₩ 4108.

11/29 Star Trek 5:30 Showing Northgate Mall, you had a beautiful smile, waited for me in the lobby. I wore a plaid flannel shirt, was w/friends, shy. I hope you see this! Call me. 22 4001.

Harvey Milk Opera Sat 11/30
You sat four seats to my left. Saw you out side at both intermissions.
Would love to meet you for coffee or drinks or more. 12 4002.

You Hot Dude In Green Shorts
White Jeep w/dog inside 11/22 at
Berkeley bookstore. I'm older guy
w/glasses, I have crush on you. Let's
meet I have many movies. \$2 4003.

Mark At Eros, Nov. 30
I liked your eyes, you liked the openness. Please call, Mark. 22 4004.

Chris On Corbett At Universe 12/7. I can't wait to get my paws on you again. Bulldog. 22 4107.

Triple Black Threat
Black Range Rover, black sunglasses,
black cocker spaniel!! waved you
nodded on Castro, want to run my fingers through your hairy chest. Please
call UR so hot! 22 4005.

Steve From Sac 11/23 Universe You: Latin?, in the funeral business, went to the white party in Miami. Me: Asian w/two friends. We danced all night. Thanks for all your help. Call me. 22 4006.

Donut Shop 5th & Harrison 12/6 11:45 PM. Hey hunk. You were inside when I walked in & we kept on looking at each other, then while I was out in front & you drove off. We still were looking. I was the cute, stocky, butch guy in the gray and black shirt, black pants. I really wished we could have met.

403.

Troy Of Napa
Please contact Ian. 2 4106.

Mr. Jaguar
Millbrae ave east over 101; 11/29,
noonish? I was in delivery van; you in
silver Jaguar. We both fashioned
mustaches. Wow! May I take you out
to lunch sometime. 122 4007.

Muni Car Named Desire
Dec. 3, between 5:30 and 6 PM.
Crowded Muni train. We caught each
others eye, both got off at Castro. I
enjoyed our chat while walking to
18th. Try again? 22 4101.

Troy Of Noe Valley
Finally spoke with you at Badlands, gave you my card. You are sexy, make my x-mas, give me a call, thought there was some interest???

22 4102.

Bruce!
Saturday Dec. 7, evening, Market
Street gym. We talked briefly, you
were waiting for a friend, coffee?
How's your back? Cal!! -R- 12 4104.

Mike From Berkeley Sat 12/7
We met at Body Workshop at RKD.
Wish I would have given you my number. I'd enjoy talking & getting together again. Give me a call. Robert.

2 4105.

Thai Tony Posed W/Cowboy Hat Can't wait for next yr. Kaiser flu sho to see you again. Me: big guy w/red Toyota. love to know you better.

4109.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

ISO Professional HIV+ Man Attractive, Prof., 40's, HIV+, would like to meet other HIV+ professional men, 40+, for dating or possible relationship. 22 3905.

I Want That Special Someone Friendship, then relationship. Seeking handsome, trim, masculine GAM, 25+, intelligent, NS, outgoing. Me: GWM, 29, 5'10", trim, goatee, handsome, great smile; enjoy arts, animas, outdoors, reading—wanting right relationship w/right man. № 3906.

River Phoenix Incarnation
Seeks intelligent lover for political & spiritual social work in community.
Do it for the World now. 22 4117.

Got Milk?
Correction, got cream? Will suck you beautifully to get big loads. Yummier even than big, uncut cheesy dicks. The more you shoot the better? Lemme on down!

3907.

Hot Hungry Bottom W/Great Ass Seeks slim, hung, tops who love using tits & ass on smaller (5'3") muscular, eager, bottom. Healthy, HIV+, 50 w/shaved head, goatee. Sharing, sex, gum, movies, LTR?

20 3908.

Palo Alto I Need A Man
Me butch, 6'2", 225#, Brn/blue. I
need a man, top Daddy, 40-50, hot,
outgoing, 225#+. So let's do it.

3909.

Attractive WM Lkng 4 BM or LM HIV+, healthy male. Likes to stay in shape, go places & have good sex. Looking for one who is interested in conversation & whatever else happens. Not over 35. 2 3910.

Stove Pipe
Black male, HIV-, needs White male,
50-70 to worship & suck his stove
pipe dick. Married males A+.
3915.

Still Seeking Lifemate!
I'm a tall, handsome, loving, energetic, & mature 36 yo, professional
artist, butch, bottom, HIV+, healthy.
UB similar, butch, top, hairy, horny
& passionate. Match + Effort +
Bliss!

3911.

Handsome Muscular Italian 38, 6'2", 185#, into fitness, travel, romance & quiet times, seeks another HIV-, extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship.

3912.

Short Old Men Need Love Too Preferably w/a masculine, HIV-, easy going guy (or married couple) w/a very large cock. I'm 49, 5'6", 150#, not bad looking, and oral. 22 3913.

Affectionate Cuddler Nds Same Masculine, tattoed, pierced, 31yo, HIV+, man looking for masculine guy tattoed, pierced, shaved head, facial hair, 30 to 40, into outdoors, music, art, motorcycles, & queer generation. ISO LTR. I'm Filipino, German, 5112", good shape, good looks, you be too. \$\mathbb{T}\$314.

GWM Sks Life Partner SF/N. Bay This shy 42, 5'10", 160#, seeking LTR. Looking for outgoing, dominant man, 35-45. Both of us are helpless romantics, giving & caring, HIV-, NS, Lite drink.

3916.

Masculine & Handsome GWM, outgoing, 40's, 6'1", 175#, brn/blue seeks muscular, rugged, spirited non unformist who is looking for an anchor.

■ 3917.

Good Things Securely Wrapped Santa Rosa GWM, 6', 41, seeks patient, stable, honest man for friendship, dating, eventual LTR. You're good at peeling layers. 23918.

Black/Latin Don Juan Wanted GWM over 50, heavy set, 6′, NS/ND, needs sex & romance w/PGB/L/AM over 35, NS, ND who likes to fuck & be orally serviced. Sincere, discreet only.

3919.

ISO 30's Mid 40's Masculine LA based pro. GBM, 41, working often in SF seeks new friends w/active interest in symphony, opera, new music, photography. Conversational a must. Middle-Eastern, German, Hispanic A+. 122 3920. Bright Eyes Seeking Asian Genuine, nice GWM seeks slim, smooth, clean-shaven Asian for companionship during the holidays & always. I'm 39, 6′, 175#, brown/hazel Kind, loving, caring, honest, affectionate. № 4008.

Nice Buy Seeks Same
Nice looking 53, GWM, HIV-, NS,
5'8", 162#, clean-cut, personable,
educated, romantic, loving & fun.
Seeks special GWM (36-48). Be hon
est, know how to communicate &
have a heart.

4009.

San Jose GWM For GAM Handsome, healthy, downtown dwelling, dark-haired, GWM, youth-ful, 40, 5'9'', 215#, seeks live in boyfriend who's sincere, NS, & affectionate. Enjoy movies, theater, exercise, ethnic food. Let's explore this!

24010.

Handsome POZ Italian Top Seeks Caucasian or Latino HIV+ guys, 20-40. I'm 36, 6'2", 195#, nice shape, wbig heart & hands. I like massage, good books, good wine, & bad boys. № 4011.

Body Positive! HIV+ Social
Best known for our well attended
monthly socials, we've added lots of
other fun activities for HIV+ gay
men. A great alternative to the bar
scene. 42 4012.

Zesty Bookworm Seeks Boyfriend My tales might excite you, my warmth enliven you & my wit enrapture you. I am 44, tall, hairy, assertive & strong. Mutual nourishment awaits. 12 4014.

Smooth Blond Seeks Hairy Blond 41 yrs, lite blond, blue eyes, solid, tan, attractive, HIV-, romantic, regular guy. Live in EB, let's set up a date. Make tender love making.

4015.

We Might Like Each Other!
Brazillan, 24 yo, fun, passionate, just moved to SF. Seeks friend poss.
lover, 20-40 yo. We could have coffee & see what happens next. 12 4016.

Out of My League 36 yo GBM, 5'11", 200#. I need my hot velvet doughnut hole used like a hot sweaty pig in heat or just someone to talk to & cuddle. Your choice.

Hugs & Kisses Come First
My arms hold what the world lacks,
Me: GWM, 46, 6'5", 250#, husky
build. You: attrac, GWM, 21-35,
slim, smooth, moderate body hair,
nice buns. Sex: ass massage, erotic
spanking, love to top.

4018.

Normal Guy GWM, masculine, 32, 57", 150#, blond, tan Wlattoo, in shape, NS, lite drinking, not Into bars. Likes: biking, outdoors, sports, sometimes kinky seeks similar, 30-40, for monogamous relationship. @ 4019.

Daddy Seeks Son:
Stocky white "Daddy" 51, wants
cut/slim "son/lover" 18 to 29. Any
race or handlcapped OK. I just want
someone to care about. 12 4020.

Sex Slave Companion GWM, 52, 57", 150#, masculine top, HIV-, NS. You" need to suck, fuck, serve, belong, between 25-40. Prefer quiet, serious passive, inshape, intellectual type. Leather A+. 4024.

Midwest To Bay GWM 6'2", 185# 45, HIV-, br/bl, stable, masculine, muscular. Likes outdoors, massage, mostly bottom (bb). Spiritually/emotionally avail. Seeks Mexican/Chicano/Latin top, 40-50, for possible LTR. Tex-Mex ++.

4111.

Slim 30 Years Old Asian 5'5", 115#, seeking friendship/relationship w/other Asians who are slim built like myself. Not into bars/clubs. 22 4121.

Lking 4 Compatible Life Partner Me: stable, warm, enjoy challenges of life. 41 yr, brr/brn, 5'9", 165#, not Adonis but still cute. Butch look, 35-50 yr preferred. 12 4120.

Seeking GBM/GHM For LTR GWM, 43, 67, 150 lb., beard, HIV-, professional, may interests, affectionate, versatile seeks similar GBM/GHM to explore serious fun, romance, sexual Intimacy & LTR. Faclal hair A+. \$2 4112.

Submissive
30 yo, grad student seeks dominant,
masculine man. I'm 5'8'', 175 lb...,
HIV-, NS. Prefer same. Looking for
emotionally & financially stable man
who can take charge without being
overbearing.

12 4113.

Sexy Handsome Dad Sks Loverboy GWM, 43, 6', 175#, very sexy body, HIV-, pretty penile unit, nifty persona, very humorous, seeks very, very cute young man (30'5) with nice persona, hot body/dick/but for stud service & possible dating.

4114.

Seeking Asian Top Mostly GWM seeks healthy dependable Asian stud who spanks & is condom crazy. A caring person while perpetually & eternally horny. Witty & humorous too.
22 4115.

Artist Activist Muscular Daddy Seek intelligent, humorous, passionate boy. Our passion runs from spank ing to cuddling. We are asymtimatic. We play Daddy boy, but are equal. The sun, the moon, the stars. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 4013.

Rescue Me!
32 yr old closeted bodybuilder, very sexy, attractive, athletic, 5'11", 195#, brn/brn seeks very secure male to show me finer things in life willing to relocate.

12 4116.

Handsome Muscular & Spiritual? Me: 41, 6'2", 190, goodlooking, muscular, mustache, versatile, swimmer, writer, world-traveler, political, sensitive, serious & irreverent. UR: 33-48, ruggedly handsome, muscular, NS/ND, romantic, consclously evolving, Pluses: mustache/beard, hairy, hung.

4118.

HIV GBM Over 35, 5'10", 175# Nice trim body into 1 on 1 relationships. You: 30-45, lean or thin build must be physically fit, no bear types please! Sorry. I am looking for someone who needs to be needed like me! 92 4119.

LESBIAN

Let's Touch Looking for another attractive, caring, kindred spirit for candle lit cuddles, warm rub downs, wicked will o maybe mild. 30ish, great bod wicktropp chips wet shy. \$\infty\$ 4023

I'd Like For Goods
Peninsula SWF, feminine, 40 yo, fit, soft, 5'6", looks for the opposite not feminine, same age & height or taller, fit, w/passion for books & strong character. 12 4024.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Like To Show-Off?
Hot, hung, masculine, muscular Italian top-man wants to meet a hard-body exhibitionist for posing Photos, etc. any race, muscles, tattoos, bubble butts are a big +.

3922.

Come Fuck Me!
Top wanted, I love to suck & love to get fucked. I'm 5'11", 178#. .t brown hair, hairy chest & ass.

3923.

San Francisco Hard Bodies
Safe, sex orgies. Very selective. Must
be very gdlkng & great body. If you
qualify, you won't be disappointed.
23 3924.

Rich! Please Call Again!!
You are Cauc., 5'11", 170#. You answered my BAR boxing/Hot oral sex ad around 11/9. I accidentally erased your phone #. Interested Others, tool but no fems.

2 3925.

I Need JO Partners Bad Gdlkng 43 yr old, touched man in SF Jack-off club recently—want more touching, kissing, etc. Someone hung for 1st time. White men only. \$\oldsymbol{\Omega}\$ 3926.

Older Seeks Younger Man
18-40, gay or bi-curious for on going
sex & romance. 'm 73, '5'8'', 170#,
loving, caring, & romantic. Daddyson scenes explored if so inclined.

3927.

Versatile cub Into Bathroom Sex Sex in the shower, bathrub (vanilla) & & kinky stuff. Like WS, toilets (no scat), enemas & more. Singles & cou ples. Me: 28, br/bl, 5°10″, 200#, hairy 7 handsome. Call now. ♀ 4034.



Holiday deadlines for the Bay Area Reporter personals

December 26 Xmas issue • Friday December 20th, 12 noon • January 2 New Years issue • Friday December 27, 12 noon

Worship My Hairy Ass Fuzzy-assed, hairy-chested bear cub, HIV-, WM, 30, 5'9", 160#, stocky build, seeks bigger WM any age. Want to sit on your face on weekends 3928.

Expert Cocksucker
Senior GWM, 5'7", 130#, begs to
worship masc, verbal topman, over
40, wgt. proportion. Cauc or Asian.
23 3929.

Give It Up To A Hunk
You know that your mouth & ass are
there to salisfy your strong muscleman. Thinking about this, handsome,
Hawaiian, hunk, 35, Wchiseled body,
slamming your butt makes your blood
boiliyour hungry hole twritch.
\$\omega\$
3931.

Hung Black Topman/44/5'9"/180 Recently banged a husky Hispanic, bottom man & now wants more. Black or brown is beautiful. Oakland on top of Mexico? Let's do it. Gracias. \$ 3932.

Fantasy Uniforms
I'm looking to have my all time fantasy come true Weither CHP or Police
or firemen. Be 30-45, HIV-, I'm
6'2", 220#, 33yr., HIV- & willing to
please. \$\mathbb{2}\$ 3933.

Black Tops Wanted 38, slim, smooth body w/tight boy pussy wants to pleasure black tops at your place. My step-dad taught me to appreciate dark meat. Let me enjoy yours. 22 3934.

Palo Alto Asian Cocksucker ISO
White cock within the Peninsula by
38 yo, 5'11", 180#, blk hair, brn
eyed Filipino. 7" + above & thick
need to respond. 2 3935.

Bottom Boy Looking For Top Man Me: GWM, 20 yo, thin, in-shape, 5'10'', 145#, br/blu, gdlkng, nice fuckable ass, likes long fucking sessions. You: GWM, 24-40, muscular, masculine, big cut dick, likes to fuck ass long/hard. № 3936.

Hot Nasty Boys
4 long intense sessions of butt play.
UB: GWM(GLM, 25-35 yo, clean
shaven, good shape, ready to spead
'em. Me: hard top, good shape,
GWM, 56″, 140#, 40 yo. Do it
now! ☑ 3937.

Trim & Muscular Topman Bl/bl, 5'9", 150#, 50 yo, needs service by hot mouth & wicked tongue on his big, stiff, 8"X6", uncut & loaded cock. Any age. @ 4025.

Young Men HIV- Wanted Raunchy 55 yr old, dirty Mexican, ISO young men to get down & dirty with. If you are of legal age , what's stopping you?

4026.

Black Males & Men of Color BM, masculine, 6', 205#, fit, professional, very well hung, clean, HIV-. Seeks similar male, attractive, beefy butt, well hung, big round bubble butt, thick legs, hot times. 12 4027.

Cock Like A Teenager...
Older man, fully bi-sexual, has firm erect cock, courtesy his urologist.
Yours can too. Talk or play, Upper Haight.
4028.

Mission: Impossibly Sexy
Mr. Phelps, you must find a thin,
smooth, uncut, passionate
kissing/cock sucking Latino man for
300# hairy WM. Mission area a
plus. This tape will... 22 4029.

Erotic Full Body Massage For boys, 18-24, skinny/smooth, 5'9' & shorter. No facial hair. I am an oral expert. \(\mathbb{Q} \) 4030.

Can You Piss With A Hard-On?
My fantasy-sucking your hard cock
while you turn your piss on & off. Me:
in-shape, attractive, WM, 40's. You
must be in shape, attractive, WM,
kick back be serviced.

4031.

Pre Cum Yum-Yum Thirsty
You: in-shape, WM, kick back, hard
cock, oozing, moderate/heavy precum drip, tasty. Me: in-shape, WM,
thirsty cocksucker, lips
patiently/longingly/thankfully sucking
juice out of your piss slit.

4032.

East Bay Frolicking WM, 34, 5'11", 175#, seeking men in area for frolicking between the sheets. Prefer men of color, 26-39, but if you're hot, why not? 😰 4033.

Third Times A Charm
GWM w/LTR, 40, Italian, hairy,
hung, in-shape "top" sks similar mas
culine, GWM "bottom" for safe hot
sexual adventures. Flexible schedule.
Hairy A++. 22 4049.

Wanted: Big Hairy Bubble Butt Versatile WM, 5'11",. well built, hung big, needs cau men, 20-30's, well built w/big hairy bubble butt to eat & fuck.

4035.

I Wanna Suck Your Butt Italian slut, 43, 6′, 190#, goatee, wants to bury my tongue up your hot, clean butt. Late night sex in the Castro. Call & get off now.

■ 4036.

Asian Athletes Wanted
If not Asian athlete, need not reply.
Looking for young Asian athletes,
muscular, well-toned, & love sports.

4037.

Water Sports
Water sports anyone? I'm HIV-, muscular, GAM, 5'3", 145#, 34 yo.
Seeking HIV-, BJ & drinking buddies.
Prefer hairy, muscular, non-Asian
men, 20-35 vo. No rimming, fucking
ND, or SM. № 4038.

Bareback Bottom Into taking it up the ass. Homy, promiscuous, poz. 44, tall, trim, stache & goatee. 22 4039.

Husky Hispanic Bottom Wanted For black E. Bay top man, 42, 5'10'', 180#. No beauty, but I have a sweet donkey dong. All races welcome, it tall, husky, masculine, mustached. Direct phone required.

12
4040.

Sex & More Offered Here
If you are top or just curious, aged 18
to 55 & any race from Asian to Black
& beyond, call this 47 yo, intelligent,
attractive Caucasian. You'll like it.

4041.

A1 Oral Service Delivered SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to guys who dig getting sucked off. Prefer trim, mature, no reciprocation. 22 4042.

Let's Wrestle Muscular, handsome GWM seeks others turned on by wrestling. Open to all skill levels & fantasies. No heavy rough housing. Just good, clean sweaty fun. Go ahead & call—you won't be disappointed. \$ 4124.

Men Over 55
Where are all the older men at? We need sex too. I'm 56, 5'2", 120#, 7", hot tight ass. Need to be sucked, fucked & FF, work my balls hard & slow. I also love to suck a big oock over 7". I'm eager to please. Race unimportant. N. Bay to SF.

4043.

Santa I Want A Stud 4 Xmas
Not the "Giddy-up: kind either! Very
fit 'n fun, don't miss my chimney!
Milk 'n cookies are waiting as a
bribe! \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 4044.

Exotic, Young, Cute, Hung Shaved head, artist. New in town. Looking for fun companion. 22 4045.

Steven-Your Mess to E. Bay Dad Phone # incomplete, you sound hot, try again. Jim. 2 4046.

Come Over & Fuck Me WM, 30, 5'10", 190 lb., blonde/blue, muscle hunk wants gdlkng, masculine men to pump me-anytime. 92 4047.

Anus Madness Goodlooking man seeks hungry hands to search & plunge my white butthole. Sink your hand & arm into juicy deep hot flesh. 22 4048.

Blue Collar Buddy
Landscaper 30's, gdlkng, smart, affectionate, kinky ISO handyman,
30's-40's, playful, submissive,
sweaty, oral. 42 4050.

Parting Glances
Seeking Relationship

Lesbian
Fetishes
Couples

Others 🗍

Seeking Adventure

E. Bay Party Boys Under 30 For Oral service & more. WM, 27, seeks boys in E. Bay to party, kick back, brothers, friends, skinheads, skaters, punks, stoners A+. I'll drain your nuts. Satisfaction guaranteed. @ 4051.

Couple Seeks Asian GWC, HIV-, 40's, attractive, seeks Asian for hot, passionate times. We're eager to please. S 4052.

Thin Muscle Boy Hot Ass Dominant, muscular, fuck stud, 37, 1853, 61", seeks boys/men, 18-45, with hard body, & tight, muscular, non-fat butts for plowing with my 8" dick.

4122.

Latin And Black Men GWM, 42, submissive bottom. 6'2", attractive. Has deep throat, ass for your pleasure. Regular sexual sessions. Waiting for your call! \$2 4123.

Big Fat White Guy Expertly Services height/weight proportioned Mexican & Brazilian studs at my Civic Center apartment. The best, deepest throat! Reciprocation discouraged. Kick back. ## 4125.

Horny Masculine Handsome 43
You are: 35-50, butch, good shape,
drug free, for fun times, massage,
oral, rimming, safe. 22 4126.

Dominant Top
Who is middle-aged & experienced is
available for gay or bisexual GWM,
20-45 bottom. 22 4127.

4128.

Here Is My Fantasy. I Lay Down
Naked. You walk in (door unlock) you
grease my man's hole & fuck me real
good. GBM are most welcome.

4129.

BM Into Butch Bottom & More I'm into butch, Mexican, Latin brother to kick it with. Let's talk. Be for real, dude. Fetishes cool! 4130.

Seeking Mature Gents
Looking for hot sex with GWM up to
65 with thick cock & a wicked streak.
I'm HIV- & NS. UB2. 22 4134.

Sensual Erotic Men's Group Looking for a few good men. Sensitive, nurturing, safe & yet able to enjoy open masculine erotic group play. 12 4131.

Asian Seeks Asians
Asian 29 yo, 5'5", 115#, seeks simi
lar Asian guys who are slim & short
for fun. Uncut & hairy a plus (hairy
balls & ass). Let's have some hot
raunchy fun. @ 4132.

ISO HIV+ GWM Top Healthy HIV+, GBM, submissive bottom seeks HIV+ GWM under 45. I'm 6 ft, 37, 180#. How about a little holiday madness. № 4133.

Musclebear Daddy Bottom
Beefy, hairy stud, HIV+, needs horse
hung top to feed my hot mouth &
plow my tight muscle butt.
Muscles/uncut A+. Hung big thick a
must. 22 4135.

No Fur—No Fun GWM, bro/bro, goatee, 40+ yrs, in shape, 57", 145#, lightly furry chest. On the hunt for, in shape GWM, 30+, masculine, mustached, fur covered man for fun. Sandy broblond A+.

4136. Asian Seeking Bareback Sex Skinny Asian in SF, 29 yr old, seeks other Asians, whites & Latinos into hot raw & bareback sex on a regular basis, group sex welcomed. Skinny o slim boys most welcomed. \$2 4137.

Overseed Elf Looking For Santa Well-hung, sexy elf, 5'8", 130#, looking for sexy, well-hung top to give me that really big present. Let me jingle your balls! 22 4138.

Very Oral Fun Seven hour suck slut, cute, blond, late 30's. Real long thin or medium size preferred. Loves Hollywood, skiing & gambling. S 4152.

FETISHES

Hungry Cock Slave
On my knees, ready to service & worship str8 or bi guy's smelly, sweaty, dirty, cock, balls, shitholes wimy hun gry mouth & wet bitch dog lappin' tongue. Blacks, Latinos, 18+.

3938.

WS Fun Gdlkng, 32 yo top w/nice smooth bod seeking thirsty boys; smooth bodies preferred but all considered. Also seeking other tops into all kinds of kink to share slave boys. \$\alpha\$ 3940.

If Your An 18-28 YO GWM... And would enjoy having your clean, ticklish, feet massaged. Give me a call. 23 3941.

Dirty Sheer Socks Wnted GLM 29 150#, 5'11", into erotically sheer, ket colored socks & big sexy feet, wants to correspond & exchange. @ 3942.

Total Raunch Pig Bottom Slave Needs extremely sleazy, & raunch top, Wrapping my mouth around you protruding ass lips sucking all day or night. You: uncut, leather, good shape. @ 3945. International Sling Slut

International Sling Slut
Pig for butthog sks strong arm power
trip top fist. 12-36 hr party session, 1
on 1 or w/your top buddies round
robin relay. Any stats, it's action, not
vanity. My sling w/shackles or your
dungeon. 22 3944.

Whip Master
Hot 6', 45, muscular, 215#, Italian,
goatee, tats. ISO adventurous
slaves/bottoms, for slow sessions.
Your space. Limits respected.
3946.

Been Bad?
Strip & tell this 45 yo, guy how bad you've been. Then over my knee!
Nothing heavy, just hot, safe fun.
Smooth, boyish a + . Others & bi's welcome too. @ 3947.

Medical Top Sought
By btm, I have operating room table, enema gear, restraints, caths, NG tubes, sounds, rubber & more. HIV-, NS, 5°9′, 178 #, clean cut, 40′s very discreet.

3948.

Corporal Punishment Meted Out To deserving individuals. Training to serve & suffer for the pleasure/enter-tainment of another. Only those in need of servious training & abuse need apply. Subject should be in good shape, 18-38. No fantasy trips/first timers. @ 4055.

Manhole Wanted
Does yours protrude, w/lots of lip on
it. Let my long hot tongue work it
good. You: in-shape, 21-45. Me: hot,
handsome, 40, 5'11", 160#.

4053.

Pig Bottom Seeks Hung Top Latino, 30, excellent shape, hairy, masculine looking loves to suck, be spanked, fucked, diddeed, fisted & pissed on. You: masculine, aggressive, take charge attitude, hung 7"+, slim to muscular.

2 4054.

Kinky Cigar Pig Seeks Others
28 yr old cub wants to get into scenes
w/other guys into cigars, pipes &
other party stuff. Also likes BD, SM,
WS. Versatile. SF only. Teach me.

Cute Thirsty Boy Toy
Very handsome, 32 (looks 28), wants
to be pissed on, then rolled over & butt
fucked. I'm HIV- w/good Italian looks.
How about sex outdoors.

4057.

Man W/Toe Ring Sk Foot Partner Lifelong excitement looking at fame skizing about men's barefet. Masculine, gdlking E. Bay GWM, 5°C, 140#, tan, moderately hairy, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, masaging barefet, sage J.D. Further friendship possible. 122 4058.

GLM 28
If you have a pair of sheer sox you wish to trade or sell call me.
3939.

Scatbear Late 20's, handsome, in-shape, hairy, hung, white scatbear, 5'8", seeks other handsome, in-shape, hairy, bearded, white bears for raunch, shit sex. Verbal, Father/son, BD all pluses. № 4060.

Show Off?
Slender GWM, 32, 6', 160#, seeks muscle. Are you interested in showing off? I'm appreciate your body. UB arrogant or shy, aggressive or passive. Call. @ 4061.

Slaveboy
Your joy comes from serving your
Master. You are under 35, 5'10", or
under, employed, intelligent, submissive, masochistic, slim, loyal, and
need guidance. 22 4064.

Sneaker Snifer! Bootlicker!!!!
Toe sucker! Mature, obedient, respectful, deep throat expert will kneel to worship & service well hung men who know what they want! @ 4139.

Flex Your Muscles
WM, late 40's, seeks muscular guy of
any size into flexing, posing & being
admired. Love baseball, biceps, hot
pecs. Especially seek very muscular
Asian. \$\alpha\$ 4140.

Nylon/Spandex Floridian Male Into sensuality of tights, not cross dresser, loves ballet/modern dance, outdoors, bicycling. Seeks friends to relocate. 22 4141.

Pussy Boy/Bitch
WM, 28, shaved, smooth, great legs
7 ass, incredible freaky nipples ISO
masculine hung fuckmaster to tease
my twat. 4142.

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **WEDNESDAY** at **5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print

Coming Out Party
I'm coming out, can you handle it?
SWM, 33, hot, in shape, & attractive, tired of fantasy, want to start off with a gang-bang. TV's A+, HIV-. 4143.

Oral Slave Goodlooking GWM, 5'11", 160#, blo/blugrn, 35, seeks dominant hairy men for cocksucking, rimming, WS, TT, BT, BD, leather & SM activities. 24144.

Young Boy Toy Wanted Attractive boylsh top, 29, 5'10", 155#, 7" uncut, looking for young bottom boy under 30 for intense ass play & fucking. Skinny, regular guys preferred. No beefy guys need to reply.

4145.

Prefect Devoted Servant Wanted By 24, 5'10'', 150#, bl/blu, professional. Do chores, errands, follow commands wistamina. Match my schedule. No STD's, fats, psychos, ancients. Be smooth, versatile. Any race OK.

4146.

COUPLES

Seeking Sensual Latino GWC, 40's, HIV-, seeking Latino single or couple for hot, passionate times. We're attractive, In-shape & eager to please. @ 4062.

21 Sexy Blonde & 31 Well Hung Boyfriend into hot safe encounters looking for WM, tall, smooth, under 30. @ 4063.

GW Couples Wntd By Horny GAM GAM, 28, clean-cut, smooth-skinned, handsome, boy-next-door seeks to satisfy horny GW couples. All-American & blondes a plus! 4148.

Black Male Seeks Leather Man 5'9", 165#, stocky, big butt, seeking leather couple. HIV + OK. For hours of tongue & butt play. Your place if possible, let's talk. #2 4149.

OTHER

Lovely Hard Bodied Cocksmen
I love stark naked men together w/big
stiffened dicks. Picts, videos & in person. Join me for cock-to-cock action.
23 3949.

German Gay Guy Living in Paris, 29 yo, blue-green eyes, blond hair, is looking for new friends. Maybe later for visits. Please write.

3950.

Philip P. Where Are You?
If you are still living in the Bay Area, please call Greg K. Would like to hear from you. 22 3951.

You Be Blonde Or Red-haired Over 40, hairy legged, capable of laughing easily & willing to take on "ethical non-monogamy" & I will eat you alive! Maybe some thing of you will be left for later!

4150.

South Bay Masturbation Rituals Brotherhood of young masturbators seeks new members for phallic worship through masturbation rituals: candles, cock-baths, chants, masturbation, all to celibate being male, cocks, & cum. Hail Penis. 22 4151.

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play safe. Wear a condom and never
exchange bodily fluids. Remember,
safe sex is hot sex! SAFE

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MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Holiday deadlines for the Bay Area Reporter personals

December 26 Xmas issue • Friday December 20th, 12 noon • January 2 New Years issue • Friday December 27, 12 noon

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Write the rest of your ad here, 30

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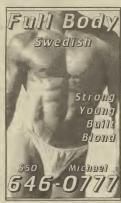


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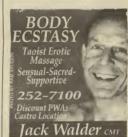


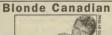


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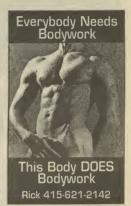
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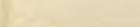
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PEOPLE

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the most successful all male escort service in the Bay Area is seeking quality people to provide services to a regular, established clientele, we offer a professional supportive work environment with attractive compensation. Positions available in the SF Bay Area, Los Angeles and other locations. Call 800-666-6933 http://www.boys2men.com

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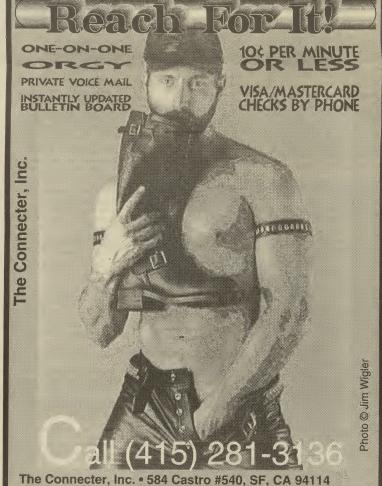
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LEATHER BUDDIES A PRIVATE CLUB 979-0242









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PEOPLE

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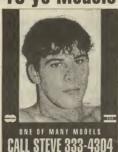
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9 ladies dancing

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-long, & slow- my specialty. 6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned master into all aspects & degrees of leatherplay. S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch. Lord 431-0959

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Masculine Latin, Clean-cut, Athletic
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Hot Bodybuilder, 6'2", 200 lb, 28yo Well Hung, 17"A, 46"C, 32"W, Very Goodlooking (408) 788-7508 Christian

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23yo, 5'8", 145#, 29w, 39c, smooth, cute **ASIAN GO-GO BOY** Strip Show/True Fantasies, All Bay Hiu p(415) 313-9537, \$100 Out, Top

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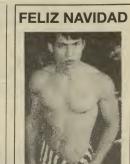


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MODELS/ESCORTS





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24 hrs.24 hrs.24 hrs Dark blonde hair, hazel washboard stomach 27" ersatile Call anvtime 837-8900 for immediate callback





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